

ORDINANCE NO. ____

AN ORDINANCE TEMPORARILY WAIVING THE 25 PERCENT PENALTY FOR BUSINESSES THAT HAVE NOT RENEWED THEIR BUSINESS/PRIVILEGE LICENSE AFTER APRIL 1 AND BEFORE JULY 1, 2020; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, businesses within the City of North Little Rock (the “City”) have suffered monetary and staffing losses due to the COVID-19 virus and resulting health crisis, and Arkansans have been encouraged to stay inside and socially distance themselves from other people; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 7502 sets forth that the Business/Privilege License for each business in the City is due by January 1, and a penalty of 25 percent of the amount is due when the payment is made between April 1 and July 1, and a 50 percent penalty for payments made after July 1; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City and its residents if the 25 percent penalty is temporarily suspended to allow North Little Rock businesses the opportunity to recoup monetary losses experienced due to the COVID-19 health crisis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That the 25 percent penalty for businesses who do not renew their 2020 Business/Privilege License after April 1 and before July 1 is temporarily suspended.

SECTION 2: That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 3: That the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any section, phrase or provision shall be declared or held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remainder of the sections, phrases or provisions.

SECTION 4: That it is hereby found and determined that the above temporary waiver of a business license penalty is beneficial for local business, and the immediate passage of this Ordinance is necessary in order to insure the proper and orderly growth and development of this land and the City of North Little Rock, Arkansas, and being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare, THEREFORE, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED:

APPROVED:

Mayor Joe A. Smith

SPONSOR:

Joe A. Smith
Mayor Joe A. Smith

ATTEST:

Diane Whitbey, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Amy Beckman Fields
Amy Beckman Fields, City Attorney

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY/cf

FILED	10:20	A.M.	_____	P.M.
By	A. Fields			
DATE	4-7-2020			
Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Collector North Little Rock, Arkansas				
RECEIVED BY	S. Ussery			