



CITY COUNCIL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

AN ORDINANCE

BY COUNCILMEMBER CEASAR MITCHELL

04-0-0772

AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING THE MATRICULA CONSULAR AS A FORM OF PROPER IDENTIFICATION.

WHEREAS, the Mexican government has established a program to provide official photo identification cards, called Matricula Consular, for its citizens who reside outside of Mexico, and

WHEREAS, the Mexican Consulate in Atlanta has requested that the City of Atlanta government recognize the Matricula Consular as valid identification for any City transactions where positive identification may be required, and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Human Relations Commission has recommended the City of Atlanta establish the Matricula Consular as an acceptable form of identification, and

WHEREAS, more than 800 U.S. police departments, 15 cities, 20 counties in various states and 13 states now accept the cards as valid identification, and

WHEREAS, City of Atlanta recognition of the Matricula Consular will make it easier for Mexican nationals residing in the city to conduct many transactions that require identification.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, as follows:

SECTION 1: that the City of Atlanta recognizes the Matricula Consular, issued by the Mexican government, as sufficient and valid identification for any City of Atlanta government transaction where establishing a positive identification is required.

SECTION 2: that any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed.

A true copy,

Rhonda Daughkin Johnson
Municipal Clerk, CMC

ADOPTED by the Council
APPROVED by the Mayor

May 3, 2004
May 11, 2004



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CITY OF ATLANTA

55 TRINITY AVENUE, S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30335-0300
TEL (404) 330-6100

SHIRLEY FRANKLIN
MAYOR

December 1, 2003

Ms. Karen Patten
Chairperson
Human Relations Commission of Atlanta
55 Trinity Avenue, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Ms. Patten:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Matricula consular.

Pursuant to a meeting with the Consul-General of Mexico, Ms. Remedios Gomez Arnau, the Mayor's Office of External Affairs and International Relations, in July 2003, met with representatives of the Atlanta Police Department and the Atlanta Municipal Court, which would be directly impacted by the Matricula consular. Both departments concluded that it **should not** pose a significant problem to their operations, since the card **will not** allow Mexican nationals to have the same privileges (e.g. work authorization, voting rights, etc.) as a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. However, they expressed certain concerns. These concerns were as follows:

- whether the Mexican Consulate would be willing to assist the Atlanta Police Department by providing training for new procedures to police officers and other law enforcement personnel in the use of this identification card.;
- whether any measures are taken by the Mexican Consulate to verify the authenticity of "breeder documents" such as birth certificates and passports, since there is the possibility that Mexican fugitives may be granted a "Matricula" and reside in the United States, thus posing a risk to Americans;
- whether important background data of each applicant can be transmitted from the particular consulate to law-enforcement, state and/or federal bureaus.

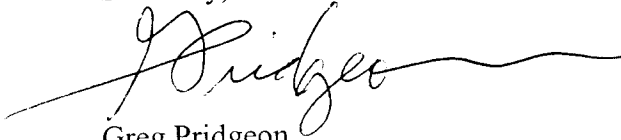
In the previous two instances, the Mexican Consulate was contacted and assurance was given that measures were taken to make sure birth certificates and passports were authentic and that up-to-date and exact records of each applicant were kept. It is also my

understanding that the Mexican Consulate General has provided training to other jurisdictions in the use of the matricula consular and would be willing to do so for the City of Atlanta.

Please be advised that formal acceptance of this document requires an act of the Atlanta City Council.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 404-330-6115.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. Pridgeon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Greg Pridgeon
Chief of Staff

Final Council Action

Consent Voice Vote

Roll Call Vote

Author: MITCHELL

Legislation Summary Sheet

Legislation Number 0A-0-0772

Comments

RECOGNIZING
 MATRICULA CONSULAR
 (ISSUED BY THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT)
 AS VALID ID FOR
 ANY CITY OF ATLANTA GOVT.
 TRANSACTION

Recommended Action

Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No Signature <input type="checkbox"/>	Veto <input type="checkbox"/>
✓		

Submitted by: *[Signature]*

Date: 5/7/04

#29

04-0-0772

(Do Not Write Above This Line)

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BY COUNCILMEMBER CEASER MITCHELL

AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING THE MATRICULA CONSULAR AS A FORM OF PROPER IDENTIFICATION.

ADOPTED BY

MAY 3 2004

COUNCIL

- CONSENT REFER
- REGULAR REPORT REFER
- ADVERTISE & REFER
- 1st ADOPT 2nd READ & REFER
- PERSONAL PAPER REFER

Date Referred 4/19/04

Referred To: Public Safety Dept. H...

Date Referred

Referred To:

Date Referred

Referred To:

First Reading

Committee

Date

Chair

Referred to

PS Committee

Date 4/27/04

Chair

Action:

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other:

Members

Refer To

Refer To

Second Reading

Committee

Date

Chair

Referred to

Committee

Date

Chair

Action:

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other:

Members

Refer To

Refer To

FINAL COUNCIL ACTION

2nd 1st & 2nd

Readings

Consent V Vote RC

CERTIFIED

CERTIFIED
MAY 3 2004
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO...

CERTIFIED
MAY 3 2004
MAYOR'S ACTION

CERTIFIED
MAY 3 2004
MAYOR'S ACTION

APPROVED
MAY 11 2004
MAYOR