

**RESOLVE #19-2019**

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence is a widespread community problem, affecting Maine families regardless of geography, income, or education; and

**WHEREAS**, dating violence and intimate partner violence are parts of the problem of domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, the effects of domestic violence are felt not only by the victims, who are robbed of their dignity and sense of security, but also by their children, families, and those that care about them and the community as a whole; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence exacts a high price on Maine's economy by keeping a victim away from her job or classroom and diminishing her productivity at the workplace or school; and

**WHEREAS**, the most effective way to utilize the collective resources committed to ending domestic violence in Maine is through coordinated community-based response, including law enforcement agencies, courts, advocacy programs, social services agencies, schools, health care professionals, employers, and all Maine citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence is not only a crime but a violation of a person's basic rights as a human being, and, as such, all victims deserve our support, and all offenders need to be held accountable; and

**WHEREAS**, all citizens should become aware of domestic violence in all its aspects and how it can be prevented and become involved on the local level in supporting victims and their families in seeking safety and justice; and

**WHEREAS**, all citizens should not only become aware of domestic violence in all its aspects, but be willing to "Take Action Maine" by advocating, helping to change the culture that supports violence, volunteering and intervening when safe to support victims and their families in seeking safety and justice; and

**WHEREAS**, consistent with our tradition of neighborly concern for one another and sense of fairness and justice, Maine's citizens are encouraged to report to law enforcement all suspected incidents of domestic violence;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the **Millinocket Town Council**, in Council assembled on September 26, 2019, does hereby proclaim **OCTOBER 2019** as **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH** in Millinocket and urges all of our citizens to join others throughout the State of Maine in recognizing this month by honoring survivors of domestic violence and dedicating ourselves to the task of making Millinocket a safer place for all of our citizens.

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