



## PROCLAMATION

**Whereas**, Peoria County celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; and

**Whereas**, according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 30.2 million small businesses in the United States, representing 99.7 percent of all businesses with employees in the United States and are responsible for 65.9 percent of net new jobs created from 2000 to 2017; and

**Whereas**, 90% of consumers in the United States say Small Business Saturday has had a positive impact on their community; and

**Whereas**, 89% of consumers who are aware of Small Business Saturday said the day encourages them to Shop Small all year long; and

**Whereas**, 73% of consumers who reportedly Shopped Small at independently-owned retailers and restaurants on Small Business Saturday did so with friends or family; and

**Whereas**, the most reported reason for consumers aware of the day to shop and dine at small, independently-owned businesses was to support their community (64%); and

**Whereas**, Peoria County supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our neighborhoods; and

**Whereas**, advocacy groups as well as public and private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

**Now, Therefore**, I, Andrew A. Rand, Chairman of the Peoria County Board, do hereby proclaim Saturday, November 24, 2018, as Small Business Saturday.

Dated this 8th day of November, A.D., 2018

ANDREW A. RAND  
PEORIA COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN

R. STEVE SONNEMAKER  
PEORIA COUNTY CLERK