

# City of Biddeford

STATE OF MAINE

PROCLAMATION

*Whereas* the government of Biddeford, Maine celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 28.8 million small businesses in the United States, they represent 99.7 percent of all businesses with employees in the United States, and are responsible for 63 percent of net new jobs created over the past 20 years; and

**WHEREAS**, small businesses employ 48 percent of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, on average, 33 percent of consumers' holiday shopping will be done at small, independently-owned retailers and restaurants; and

**WHEREAS**, 91 percent of all consumers believe that supporting small, independently-owned restaurants and bars is important; and 76 percent of all consumers plan to go to one or more small businesses as part of their holiday shopping; and

**WHEREAS**, Biddeford 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, Alan Casavant, Mayor of the City of Biddeford, Maine, do hereby proclaim November 24, 2018 as **SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY** and urge residents of Biddeford to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

*In Witness Whereof, We, the undersigned, have herewith affixed our signatures this 8<sup>th</sup> day of NOV 2018*

*Carmen J. Moran*  
City Clerk



*Alan Casavant*  
Mayor