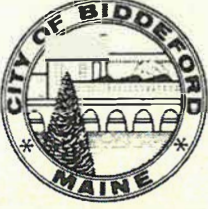


City of Biddeford

STATE OF  MAINE

SS **PROCLAMATION** *SS*

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 30.2 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 65.9 percent of net new jobs created from 2000 to 2017; and

WHEREAS, small businesses employ 47.5 percent of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

WHEREAS, 94 percent of consumers in the United States value the contributions small businesses make in their community; and

WHEREAS, 96 percent of all consumers who plan to shop on Small Business Saturday® said the day inspires them to go to small, independently-owned retailers or restaurants that they have not been to before, or would not have otherwise tried; and

WHEREAS, 92 percent of companies planning promotions on Small Business Saturday said the day helps their business stand out during the busy holiday shopping season; and

WHEREAS, Biddeford supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our communities; 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 30, 2019 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 19th *day of* NOV. 2019

Garmey Mow
City Clerk



Alan Casavant
Mayor