

PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING

25th Commemoration in Remembrance for the victims of Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda

WHEREAS, Genocide, a human tragedy inspired by the most repugnant elements of hatred, intolerance and inhumanity from one group to another; and

WHEREAS, The Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda has been internationally recognized as the massacre of nearly one million Tutsi and moderate Hutu in Rwanda; and

WHEREAS, As a result of that Genocide, millions of men, women, and children have been murdered or experienced forced migration by others; and

WHEREAS, Since 1994, the world has commemorated the Genocide against the Tutsi in April to honor the memory of the men, women, and children who died and to express solidarity with the survivors; and

WHEREAS, The Genocide against the Tutsi has left a solemn reminder that we must work together to protect the vulnerable, uphold human rights, and prevent genocide; and

WHEREAS, By recognizing, remembering, and educating ourselves in all cases of past and ongoing genocide, we help protect historic memory, ensure that similar atrocities do not occur again, and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, April's declaration as Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month is to preserve the memory of its victims, honor survivors, struggle against future possible genocides and foster a peaceful coexistence between diverse communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, Ethan K. Strimling, Mayor of the City of Portland, Maine and the members of the Portland City Council: Do hereby declare April 2019 as a month long 25th commemoration in Remembrance for the Victims of the Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda in the city of Portland Maine and invite citizens of Portland to join in activities being held in the community to commemorate this solemn observance, and to recognize how much more we must do in the struggle against this most evil of crimes against humanity.

Signed and sealed this 13th day of April, 2019



Ethan K. Strimling, Mayor