

A

**PROCLAMATION**

of the

**TOWN COUNCIL**



Town of Windham, Maine

WHEREAS, sex trafficking can happen to anyone, anywhere, and poses a grave threat to the safety and dignity of individuals across our community; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine has taken a historic step by enacting laws 1435 and 1436, which provide survivors with a means to seal records resulting from their exploitation and target the root issue of the sex trade - sex buying; and

WHEREAS, Maine stands as the first state in our nation to pass such groundbreaking legislation, positioning us at the forefront of the fight against human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, a past study identified 300 to 400 trafficking cases in Maine, yet the true numbers are presumed to be far greater; and

WHEREAS, early intervention in the form of education and awareness for our youth and our community is imperative in preventing sex trafficking; and

WHEREAS, 92% of sex trafficked survivors report being physically assaulted, 42% say they have attempted suicide, and 90% want to escape the sex trade, but feel they can't; and

WHEREAS, trafficking can occur in-person and online, and people from all demographics are at risk; and

WHEREAS, community involvement is necessary to combat and ultimately end human trafficking, and the Town of Windham is committed to ensuring that no survivor

or family affected by trafficking is left without the services they need to heal and progress,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Town Council of the Town of Windham its support for the efforts to combat sex trafficking and to raise awareness and engagement on this critical issue. The Town of Windham recognizes the importance of supportive legislation, community involvement, and survivor advocacy in working towards a future free from exploitation and trafficking.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of the Town of Windham, Maine to be affixed this 25th day of February 2025.

Town Council of the Town of Windham, Maine:

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Jarrod Maxfield, Chairman

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William Reiner, Vice Chairman

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David Nadeau, Parliamentarian

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Nicholas Kalogerakis

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Mark Morrison

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John Henry

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brett Jones

SEAL

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Attest: Linda Morrell, CMC  
Town Clerk