

SOUTH PORTLAND CITY COUNCIL

POSITION PAPER OF THE CITY CLERK

SUBJECT:

RESOLVE #11-17/18 – Proclaiming the month of September as Pain Awareness & National Recovery Month. Passage requires majority vote.

POSITION: This item is being brought forward for Council consideration from the Southern Maine Chronic Pain Support Group. The proclamation was signed by the Governor of Maine this year. Additionally, other cities have adopted this proclamation and many are slated to be read and adopted in the month of September.

REQUESTED ACTION:

Passage of RESOLVE #11-17/18.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emp. of Salary", is located in the lower right quadrant of the page.



CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND

PATRICIA SMITH
Mayor

SCOTT T. MORELLI
City Manager

EMILY F. SCULLY
City Clerk

SALLY J. DAGGETT
Jensen Baird Gardner & Henry

**In Council
Resolve #11-17/18**

District One
CLAUDE V.Z. MORGAN

District Two
PATRICIA SMITH

District Three
EBEN ROSE

District Four
LINDA C. COHEN

District Five
BRAD FOX

At Large
MAXINE BEECHER

At Large
SUSAN HENDERSON

RESOLVED, that the City Council of South Portland hereby adopts the following Proclamation:

Whereas, Chronic Pain and Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) are two of the nation's most serious health concerns and are both multifaceted health conditions impacting almost every single American, and often require multimodal and inter professional treatment; and

Whereas, Chronic Pain and SUDs afflict nearly every aspect of a person's life, impact the entire family, and, because their economic and social implications affect us all; and

Whereas, an estimated one in three Americans are affected, and a total of between 75 to 159 million Americans are experiencing some type of chronic pain on a daily basis; and

Whereas, presently, 20.2 million adults are living with SUDs, more than 90,000 Americans die from drugs and alcohol yearly, and between 25,000 and 30,000 Mainers want treatment but don't have access to it; and

Whereas, there are 23 million Americans living in long-term recovery, and according to results from the 1st annual Life in Recovery Survey, a shift from active use to active recovery is good for individuals, families, communities, and the nation's economy; and

Whereas, the Chronic Pain Support Group of Southern Maine has since 1993, provided a safe support for people with pain and has taught the coping skills necessary to survive; has worked with a multidisciplinary group of chronic pain advocates, comprised of students, staff, faculty, and community members along with healthcare professionals to improve the quality of life of people living in pain; and

Whereas, Penobscot Community Health care (PCHC) in combination with the University of New England, the University of Southern Maine, the US Pain Foundation, and chapters of Young People in Recovery seek to raise awareness regarding chronic pain and SUD's in the State of Maine, to empower individuals and reduce barriers to care by educating, advocating, and conducting research, while partnering with the community to improve the quality of life for those living with these conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the City of South Portland hereby recognizes September as Pain Awareness & National Recovery Month.

Sealed with the Seal of the City of South Portland, Maine, on this Eighteenth Day of September in the Year Two Thousand and Seventeen.