

PROCLAMATION
DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK
September 24th through September 30th, 2018

Whereas, Diaper Need, the condition of not having a sufficient supply of clean diapers to ensure that infants and toddlers are clean, healthy and dry, can adversely affect the health and welfare of infants, toddlers and their families; and

Whereas, national surveys report that one in three mothers experiencing diaper need at some time while their children are less than three years of age and forty-eight percent of families delay changing a diaper to extend their supply; and

Whereas, the average infant or toddler requires an average of at least 50 diaper changes per week over three years; and

Whereas, there are no government assistance programs for the purchase or provision of diapers, and a monthly supply of diapers can cost as much as six percent of a full-time minimum wage worker's salary, therefore obtaining a sufficient supply of diapers can cause economic hardship to families; and

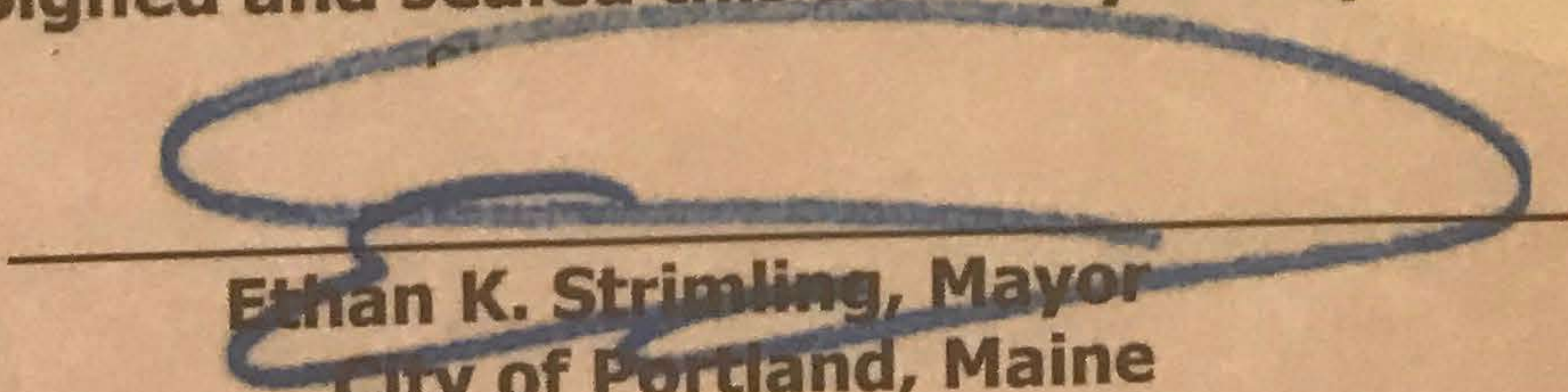
Whereas, a supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for infant and toddlers to participate in childcare programs and quality early education programs; and

Whereas, the people of Portland recognize that addressing Diaper Need can lead to economic opportunity for the state's low-income families and can lead to improved health for families and their communities; and

Whereas, Portland is proud to be home to various community organizations that recognize the importance of diapers in helping provide economic stability for families and distribute diapers to poor families through various channels;
now

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 proclaim week of September 24th through September 30th, 2018 as **DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK** in the City of Portland and encourage the citizens of Portland to donate generously to diaper banks, diaper drives, and those organizations that distribute diapers to families in need to help alleviate diaper need in Portland and environs.

Signed and sealed this 24th day of September, 2018



Ethan K. Strimling, Mayor
City of Portland, Maine

