

PROCLAMATION

HONORING

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

WHEREAS,

The Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945. Jews were the primary victims – six million were murdered; Gypsies, the handicapped and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic or national reasons. Millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war and political dissidents also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

WHEREAS,

The history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies and governments; and

WHEREAS,

We the people of the City of Portland, Maine should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution and tyranny; and

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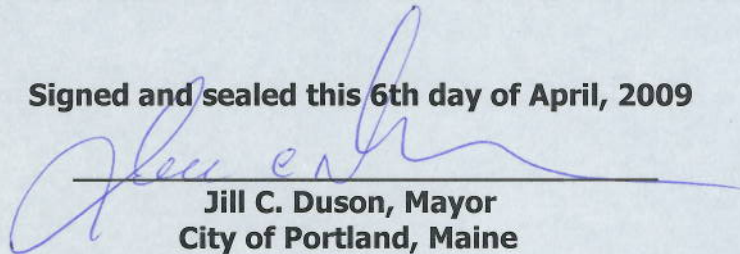
The **Days of Remembrance** have been set aside for the people of the City of Portland to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; and

WHEREAS,

Pursuant to an Act of Congress, the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the **Days of Remembrance** of the victims of the Holocaust to be Sunday, April 19 through Sunday, April 26, 2009 including the Day of Remembrance known as **Yom Hashoah**, April 21;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, Jill C. Duson, Mayor of the City of Portland, Maine, and the members of the Portland City Council do hereby proclaim the week of Sunday, April 19th through April 26, 2009 as **Days of Remembrance** in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and in honor of the survivors as well as the rescuers and liberators.

Signed and sealed this 6th day of April, 2009



**Jill C. Duson, Mayor
City of Portland, Maine**

