WHEREAS, bullying is physical, verbal, sexual, or emotional harm or intimidation intentionally directed at a person or group of people; and

WHEREAS, bullying occurs in neighborhoods, playgrounds, schools, and through technology, such as internet and cell phones; and

WHEREAS, various researchers have concluded that bullying is the most common form of violence, affecting millions of American children and adolescents annually; and

WHEREAS, targets of bullying are more likely to acquire physical, emotional, and learning problems and students who are repeatedly bullied often fear activities such as riding the bus, going to school, and attending community activities; and

WHEREAS, children who bully are at greater risk of engaging in more serious violent behaviors; and

WHEREAS, children who witness bullying often feel less secure, more fearful, and intimidated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Albany City Council recognizes the month of October 2018 as National Bullying Prevention Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Albany schools, students, parents, recreation programs, religious institutions, and community organizations be encouraged to engage in a variety of awareness and prevention activities designed to make our communities safer for all children and adolescents.

PEGGY MCQUAID, MAYOR

City of Albany Proclamation No. 2018-29