

Resolve 11-05/06

Passage: 4/3/06 9-0

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CITY OF PORTLAND
IN THE CITY COUNCIL

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RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2006
“YOUTH ALCOHOL PREVENTION MONTH”
IN
THE CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE

WHEREAS, children who consume alcohol before age 15 are five times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who abstain from alcohol until they are 21; and

WHEREAS, underage drinking is linked to youth depression, academic failure, and violence, including sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 Maine Youth Drug and Alcohol Use Survey (MYDAUS) found that in Portland, 25% of 8th graders and 40% of 9th graders have consumed alcohol during the past 30 days; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 MYDAUS found that more than half of 11th and 12th graders in Portland have consumed alcohol during the past 30 days, with the majority of these students participating in binge drinking; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 MYDAUS survey found that the majority of Portland youth report that alcohol is “easy” to get; and

WHEREAS, data shows that alcohol kills more youth in this nation than all other illegal drugs combined, contributing to homicide, suicide, auto crashes, alcohol poisoning, and unintentional injuries such as burns, drowning and falls; and

WHEREAS, the Portland City Council recognizes the urgent relevance of the work being undertaken by the Portland CMCA Coalition and its partners to build a community with norms, policies, and enforcement that prevent the accessibility of alcohol to youth;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in furtherance of these important efforts, I, James I. Cohen, Mayor of the City of Portland, Maine and the members of the Portland City Council, do hereby declare the Month of April 2006 as **Youth Alcohol Prevention Month** within the City of Portland, and hereby, invite the citizens of Portland to participate in the schedule of events organized during this month for the purpose of building understanding around the devastating costs of underage drinking and helping to reduce alcohol-related problems in our community.