

# PROCLAMATION

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## **Bullying Prevention Month October 2023**

WHEREAS, bullying is the aggressive use of power targeting another person or group of people with repeated, unwanted words or actions, hurting them emotionally or physically; and

WHEREAS, bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose; and

WHEREAS, while most reported bullying happens in a school setting, a significant percentage of school-age bullying also happens in places like on the playground, on the bus, in a neighborhood, or on the internet; and

WHEREAS, targets of bullying are at an increased risk for depression, anxiety, sleep difficulties, lower academic achievement, and dropping out of school and students who are repeatedly bullied often fear such activities as riding the bus, going to school, interacting online, and attending community activities; and

WHEREAS, more U.S. high school students who identify as LGBTQ are bullied, cyberbullied, or they stay home due to safety concerns than their straight and cisgendered peers; 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, children who bully are at greater risk of engaging in more serious violent behaviors; and

WHEREAS, children who witness bullying often feel less safe, helpless to stop it, and intimidated.


NOW, THEREFORE, I, Alexander D. Johnson II, Mayor of the City of Albany, do hereby proclaim October 2023, as

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in Albany, and I also call upon parents, caregivers, teachers, and schools to adopt a trauma-informed approach and play an important role in preventing and addressing bullying and its harmful effects.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Albany to be affixed this 27th day of September 2023.

  
Alexander D. Johnson II, Mayor