State of Maine

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Maine enjoys a large, vibrant Franco-American community; and

WHEREAS, nearly one third of Maine citizens are proud to claim Franco-American heritage; and

WHEREAS, the significant cultural, economic and civic contributions made by Franco-Americans have served to enrich the culture and lifestyle of Maine; and

WHEREAS, Maine benefits from a close and prosperous relationship with its Canadian friends, with over 600 miles of shared border; and

WHEREAS, the feast of Saint Jean the Baptist is an important French cultural observance, celebrated in America as early as 1636.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PAUL R. LEPAGE, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim June 24, 2012 as

SAINT JEAN-BAPTISTE DAY

throughout the State of Maine, and urge all citizens to observe this day in suitable places with appropriate ceremonies to celebrate the positive influence of Franco-American culture in Maine.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this fourteenth day of June in the Year of our Lord Two Thousand Twelve.

Paul R. LePage
Governor

Charles E. Summers, Jr.
Secretary of State
TRUE ATTESTED COPY