

WHEREAS, every child deserves a permanent family and the opportunity to grow in a safe, stable, and happy and healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, adoptive parents open their hearts and families to children in need of a home, providing them with love, hope, guidance and the opportunity for a healthy and productive future; and

WHEREAS, state agencies, courts, and public and private organizations here in Maine and across the nation are "All In" to identify permanent families for children of all ages; and

WHEREAS, approximately 122,000 children and youth are in foster care nationwide waiting for a permanent family; and

WHEREAS, we remember all the children in Maine who are currently in foster care waiting for a loving family and celebrate the 274 adoptions that took place from foster care in Maine last year; and

WHEREAS, Adoption Awareness Month is an opportunity to highlight the urgent need for adoptive families for children and youth in foster care, to honor and recognize the adoptive parents and families formed through adoption, and to commend the many hardworking and caring professionals and advocates who further adoption efforts in our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim November 2020 as

Adoption Awareness Month

throughout the State of Maine, and I urge all citizens to recognize the many children waiting to be adopted, the outstanding commitment provided by dedicated adoptive parents, and the service of those working every day to place them in loving families.



In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this fifth day of November Two Thousand Twenty

Janet T. Mills Governor