WHEREAS, Maine’s farmers are a cornerstone of our great state and we must all continue to support our agricultural producers to ensure a resilient rural economy; and

WHEREAS, Maine’s farmers, agricultural organizations, and supporters have worked tirelessly to create a foundation for a vibrant local food system to make Maine farm products available and accessible year-round; and

WHEREAS, Maine farmers contribute to the quality of the state’s soil and water resources through their use of healthy soil conservation practices; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic exposed the fragility of the nation’s food system and underscored the need to strengthen our local and regional food systems with infrastructure, and economic and market development; and

WHEREAS, Maine farmers and food producers quickly embraced innovation and realigned their businesses to safely find new markets for their products during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the state has committed to ending hunger and increasing by thirty percent Maine people’s consumption of locally and regionally produced food by 2030;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby recognize and proclaim March 22nd through 26th, 2021 as Agriculture Week

in Maine, and I encourage all citizens to celebrate and support our farmers so that we may ensure Maine’s working landscapes thrive, agriculture remains a cornerstone of our state, and quality farm products are accessible and available for generations to come.

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

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State