

WHEREAS, service to others is a hallmark of the American character, and throughout our history citizens have stepped up to meet our challenges by volunteering in their communities; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps provides opportunities for nearly 75,000 Americans to serve their country through an intensive commitment to service at nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the country; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps enriches the lives of its members, creating engaged citizens who are active participants in civic matters affecting their communities long after their service terms are completed; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps members encourage collaboration and partnerships, leveraging millions of volunteers in service and acquiring the support of business partners to increase the effectiveness of their initiatives; and

WHEREAS, in Maine more than 381 AmeriCorps members of various ages and backgrounds helped to meet local needs at more than 111 locations in the state by tutoring and mentoring children and youth, improving health outcomes, providing food and education for the hungry and the homeless, assisting seniors to age in place, providing job readiness training, and restoring the environment; and

WHEREAS, in exchange for their service, AmeriCorps members develop valuable work skills, earn money for continuing education, and strengthen the lives of their families, communities, and state; and

WHEREAS, since AmeriCorps was founded in 1994, more than 6500 AmeriCorps members in Maine served more than 9.2 million hours and qualified for the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award, totaling more than \$21.8 million; and

WHEREAS, in September 2019, the nation will mark the 25th anniversary of AmeriCorps, saluting the more than 1 million Americans who have taken the pledge to 'Get Things Done' for America; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps Week is an opportunity to recognize the dedication and commitment of the more than 1 million Americans who have chosen to serve their country through AmeriCorps and their community partners, and to encourage more Americans to follow their footsteps in service.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the great state of Maine, do hereby designate March 10th through 17th, 2019, as **AmeriCorps Week** in Maine, and urge citizens to thank AmeriCorps members and alumni for their service and to find their own ways to volunteer and to give back to their communities.



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 March Two Thousand Nineteen

Janet T. Mills Governor