

*State of Maine*



**WHEREAS**, cancer is the leading cause of death by disease among U.S. children and is detected in more than 15,000 of our country's sons and daughters every year; and

**WHEREAS**, the state of Maine has one of the highest rates of childhood cancer in the nation, with more than 50 Maine children diagnosed with cancer annually, and over 400 children currently undergoing treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, thanks to ongoing advances in research and treatment, the five-year survival rate for all childhood cancers has climbed from less than 50 percent to 80 percent over the last several decades; and

**WHEREAS**, innovative studies are leading to real breakthroughs, reminding us of the importance of supporting scientific discovery and moving closer to finding cures, though much work remains to be done; and

**WHEREAS**, with the signing of L.D. 2029, the State designates the month of March as Maine Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and adds an option on Maine's tax return form allowing Maine taxpayers entitled to a tax refund to designate a portion of that refund to be paid into the Maine Children's Cancer Research Fund;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby recognize the month of March as

## **Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

in Maine, and I urge all citizens to remember the children who have been taken away from us too soon, to support those who continue to battle this illness with strength and courage, and to pay tribute to the families, friends, medical professionals and organizations who support and care for children fighting pediatric cancer.

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

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

Matthew Dunlap  
Secretary of State  
TRUE ATTESTED COPY

