

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, in the state of Maine, cancer affects more than 50 new children and families annually, where more than 400 children are undergoing treatment currently, and where we are ranked in the top range of incidence of all cancers at 468.3 per 100,00 people; and

WHEREAS, March is recognized as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in Maine; 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, one in five children diagnosed will not survive.

During Maine's Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, we remember the many children who have been taken from us too soon and we extend our support to all those who continue to battle this illness with incredible strength and courage.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby recognize March 2019 as

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

in Maine, and I call this observation to the attention of all our citizens as a way of paying tribute to the families, friends, professionals and communities who lend their strength to 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 fourth day of March Two Thousand Nineteen

Janet T. Mills Governor