

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in the U.S. among men and women combined; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer in Maine; and

WHEREAS, one in twenty men and one in twenty-four women will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer in their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, there are now more than one million survivors of colorectal cancer in the United States; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is one of the few cancers that can be prevented with timely screening, but 1 in 3 eligible Americans are not up to date on screening; and

WHEREAS, the National Cancer Institute estimates that there could be as many as 45,000 additional Colorectal Cancer deaths because of the drop in screening due to Covid-19; and

**WHEREAS,** it is critical that all people, of all ages, know the signs and symptoms of the disease; and

WHEREAS, observing Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month during the month of March provides a special opportunity to increase awareness and offer education on the importance of early detection and screening of colorectal cancer;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby recognize March 2022 as

## COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in Maine and I urge all citizens to recognize this observance in activities that will increase awareness, raise screening rates, and save lives.

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

> Janet T. Mills Governor

Shenna Bellows Secretary of State