

WHEREAS, the State of Maine recognizes floods are America's number one natural disaster and can happen anytime; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine recognizes that 90 percent of all natural disasters in the U.S. involve flooding; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine joins in partnership with Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry/ Floodplain Management Program, Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Weather Service (NWS), the USGS New England Water Science Center, and the New Hampshire Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (NH HSEM) to demonstrate flood risks across our states and provide important information about steps to protect citizens; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine encourages citizens to view the Floodplain Management Program webpage featuring important information on obtaining flood insurance at www.maine.gov/dacf/flood/index.shtml. To learn more about Flood Safety Awareness Week, visit MEMA's website at www.maine.gov/mema/hazards/natural-hazards/flooding. For more information on becoming more resilient to longer-term changes in the region's climate, visit DEP's website at www.maine.gov/dep/sustainability/climate; and

WHEREAS, many municipalities within the State of Maine have established floodplain management ordinances to maintain community eligibility for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) by applying the provisions to:

- a. Restrict or prohibit uses that are dangerous to health, safety, or property in times of flooding or cause undue increases in flood heights or velocities;
- b. Require development standards for buildings or improvements in flood prone areas in order to break the cycle of having repeat flood damages;
- c. Reduce the amount of damage to improved property and loss of life during flood events, which in turn, decreases vulnerability and reduces the amount of disaster assistance paid out for flood events.
- d. Ensure that Federally backed flood insurance is available;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby recognize March 14th through 18th, 2022 as **Flood Safety Awareness Week** in Maine and I urge all citizens to recognize this observance.

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