

**WHEREAS,** Maine's maple sugarbush provides recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat, pulp and fire wood, a source of a natural sweetener, and forest management for the communities where they are located; and

WHEREAS, the maple sugar industry contributes an estimated \$55 million to Maine's economy; and

WHEREAS, this industry provides a sustainable source of income, over 800 full- and part-time jobs in rural Maine, and nearly \$27 million in salaries; and

**WHEREAS**, there are about 2,000,000 maple tree taps in Maine and there is the potential capacity for 41,000,000 more taps; and

WHEREAS, Maine produces 575,000 gallons of syrup annually, valued at \$27 million; and

**WHEREAS,** Maine is the 3rd leading state producing maple syrup, behind Vermont and New York; and

WHEREAS, Maine is renowned for the excellent quality of its syrup because of our soil, climate, and the dedication of our sugar makers; and

WHEREAS, Maine was among the first states to open its sugar houses and invite the public in to see how syrup is made; and

WHEREAS, Maine has been celebrating Maine Maple Sunday for the past 39 years;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the fourth weekend in March, March 26th and 27th, 2022, as

## Maine Maple Sunday Weekend

throughout the state, and I encourage all Maine people to celebrate the world class products – and people – that make Maine unique.

MAIN

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

> Janet T. Mills Governor

Shenna Bellows Secretary of State