

**WHEREAS**, the State of Maine is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state; and

WHEREAS, a sufficient blood supply is a public health issue both locally and nationally, and our hospitals and medical centers need a readily available supply for residents and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, one blood donation can help up to three patients, and although an estimated 38 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to donate blood, less than 10 percent actually do; and

**WHEREAS,** Maine is home to many organizations committed to raising awareness about the importance of blood donation, including the American Red Cross; and

**WHEREAS**, challenging times, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, can decrease local blood supplies needed for medical issues including anemia, sickle cell, cancer, and trauma; and

WHEREAS, blood donation can be done safely and comfortably with facial coverings and social distancing measures; and

**WHEREAS,** Maine Blood Donation Day effectively serves to remind us that we need to constantly replenish our blood supply through donation and community awareness;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby recognize September 4th, 2020 as

## **Maine Blood Donation Day**

throughout the state, and I urge the people of Maine to support our local blood drives as saving lives and protecting citizens is our primary goal.



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 August Two Thousand Twenty

Janet T. Mills Governor