

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week is celebrating its 7th anniversary of raising awareness of the vital role that Registered Apprenticeships play in providing opportunities to the people of Maine by allowing apprentices to earn while they learn and preparing a pathway to well-paying careers and the ability to advance in those careers; and

WHEREAS, the advancement and well-being of the State of Maine depends upon its ability to expand opportunities in its workforce that are inclusive of individuals who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality in their chosen fields; and

WHEREAS, there are critical and essential job openings in Maine, such as in healthcare, clean energy, manufacturing and other key sectors, and the growth and expansion of apprenticeship will provide the education required to develop in-demand skills and fill these jobs through its earn-while-you-learn model; and

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs are uniquely able to meet the changing demands of Maine's economy and provide a path for all qualified individuals, including women, youth, people of color, rural communities, justice-involved individuals and individuals with disabilities, to become apprentices and contribute to America's industries; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine recognizes that robust apprenticeship programs provide tangible value to both job creators and apprentices, with the potential to increase productivity, improve diversity and inclusion, and reduce recruitment and training costs while providing a pathway to family-sustaining wage careers for job seekers;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the week of November 15th through the 21st, 2021 as

National Apprenticeship Week

throughout the State of Maine, and I urge all citizens to recognize this observance.

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

> Janet T. Mills Governor

Shenna Bellows Secretary of State

TRUE ATTESTED COPY