

WHEREAS, nurse practitioners (NPs) serve as trusted health care providers for patients in our state; and

**WHEREAS,** NPs have been at the forefront of efforts to combat COVID-19, educating patients about prevention and ensuring the equitable distribution of vaccinations; and

WHEREAS, NPs work to expand access to care in underserved communities, end health disparities, and combat systemic racism in health care; and

WHEREAS, patients depend on the more than 325,000 licensed NPs in the United States, and more than 2,500 in Maine, to diagnose, manage, and treat their chronic and acute health care conditions; and

WHEREAS, NPs provide high-quality primary, acute and specialty health care services while emphasizing health promotion, disease prevention, health education and counseling, guiding patients to make smarter health and lifestyle choices every day; and

**WHEREAS**, the confidence that patients have in NP-delivered health care is evidenced by the more than 1 billion visits made annually to NPs across the country; and

WHEREAS, leading governmental and policy entities including the National Academy of Medicine, National Council of State Boards of Nursing, National Governors Association, and Federal Trade Commission have taken notice of the benefits of providing patients full and direct access to NP care; and

**WHEREAS,** Maine, celebrating 26 years of NP Full Practice Authority, is proud to recognize and honor the service of NPs to our state;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the week of November 7th through 13th, 2021 as

## **National Nurse Practitioner Week**

throughout the State of Maine, and I urge all citizens to recognize the countless contributions NPs have made and will continue to make to the health and well-being of people in our state.

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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 nineteenth day of October Two Thousand Twenty-One

> Janet T. Mills Governor

Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State
TRUE ATTESTED COPY