

WHEREAS, each year during the month of May, the United States Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary join partners nationwide to raise awareness about boating responsibly; and

WHEREAS, safe boating starts onshore, with individuals preparing a float plan for their passengers, getting a free vessel safety check, and participating in boating safety courses; and

WHEREAS, as they embark, boaters should make sure they check the marine forecast and that all passengers are equipped with a life jacket; and

WHEREAS, the chance of drowning while wearing a life jacket is 1 in 66, and the chance of drowning with no life jacket is 1 in 11; and

WHEREAS, every 2 ½ hours someone is injured or killed in a boating accident; and

WHEREAS, to put an end to preventable accidents that claim too many lives each year, individuals should never operate a boat under the influence of drugs or alcohol; and

WHEREAS, boating is an important part of our national heritage, it is imperative that all individuals operating or occupying a boat follow commonsense safety procedures that keep them safe and also keep our lakes, rivers, and oceans safe for all to enjoy;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the week of May 18th to the 24th, 2019 as

National Safe Boating Week

in Maine, and I urge all the citizens of Maine to recognize this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this first day of April Two Thousand Nineteen

> Janet T. Mills Governor

Matthew Dunlap Secretary of State

TRUE ATTESTED COPY