

WHEREAS, the State of Maine and its citizens observe October 15th as Poetry Day in accordance with Sec. 1 MRSA § 112; and

WHEREAS, Poetry Day seeks to highlight the legacy and achievement of American poets, including many notable Maine poets such as Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Edna St. Vincent Millay, James Phinney Baxter, Agnes Bushell, Henry Braun, Richard Blanco, Stuart Kestenbaum, and Betsy Scholl, to name a few; and

WHEREAS, poetry is a culturally enriching form of expression that enhances the lives of writers, readers, and listeners alike, leading to a better understanding of ourselves and the world around us; and

WHEREAS, poetry is an essential part of the arts and humanities, contributing to every aspect of life today from education and the economy to community pride and development; and

WHEREAS, poetry has produced some of the nation's leading creative artists and has inspired artists in other fields such as music, theatre, film, dance, and the visual arts; and

WHEREAS, it is to the benefit of all the people of Maine that schools, churches, libraries, clubs and organizations, the newspapers, radio, and television celebrate and recognize the important role poetry plays in our culture and our lives;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the great state of Maine, do hereby proclaim October 15th, 2019

## **Poetry Day**

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

Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State
TRUE ATTESTED COPY

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

> Janet T. Mills Governor