

WHEREAS, Maine enjoys a large, vibrant Franco-American community, largely as a result of French Canadians immigrating to the state between 1840 and 1930; and

WHEREAS, at least twenty-five percent of Maine citizens claim Franco-American heritage, and French is the second-most spoken language in the state; and

WHEREAS, the significant cultural, economic, and civic contributions made by Franco-Americans have enriched the culture and lives of Maine people; and

WHEREAS, Maine benefits from a close and prosperous relationship with its Canadian neighbors, with more than 600 miles of shared border; and

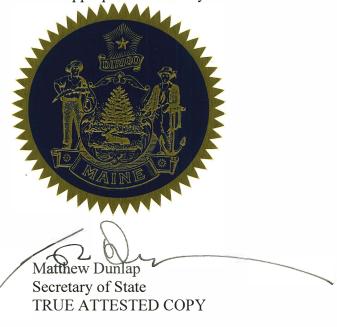
WHEREAS, the feast of Saint Jean the Baptist is an important French cultural observance, celebrated in America as early as 1636; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine and its citizens observe June 24th as Saint Jean-Baptiste Day in accordance with Sec. 1 MRSA § 120;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the great state of Maine, do hereby proclaim June 21st, 2020

Saint Jean-Baptiste Day

throughout the State of Maine, and urge all citizens to recognize this observance in suitable places and with appropriate ceremony.



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

Janet T. Mills Governor