

**WHEREAS**, the fabric of the Maine economy is built on small, entrepreneurial businesses that make Maine a place where we work, live, and have a diverse economy; and

WHEREAS, approximately 28 million small businesses operate within the United States, including 22 million that are individually operated without any employees; and

**WHEREAS**, small businesses create nearly two out of every three new jobs, including more than 4,300 jobs in Maine in 2018; and

WHEREAS, small businesses represent ninety-nine percent of all businesses in Maine, employing approximately fifty-seven percent of the workforce in the state; and

WHEREAS, Maine has nearly 142,000 small businesses, more than 4,300 of which are minority-owned; and

WHEREAS, small businesses create the bulk of new products and technologies, from developing new sustainable alternative energy sources to apps that monitor your health; and

WHEREAS, across America, small businesses support local economies, employ local people, and contribute to the vibrancy of their communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the great State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the week of May 5th through May 11th, 2019, as

## **Small Business Week**

throughout the State of Maine and I urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the contributions of small businesses to our economy with appropriate programs and activities.

TO THE PARTY OF TH

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

Janet T. Mills Governor

Matthew Dunlap Secretary of State

TRUE ATTESTED COPY