

State of Maine



WHEREAS, October 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, workplaces across our state that are welcoming of the talents of all people, including people with disabilities, are critical to healthy communities and a strong economy; and

WHEREAS, while the employment of persons with disabilities ages 16 to 64 in Maine has seen significant gains, it is still far less than the percentage of Maine people without disabilities; and

WHEREAS, it is important that the State of Maine prepare all youth, including those with disabilities, for meaningful careers and an adulthood that includes employment; and

WHEREAS, Maine is an Employment First state, which requires that state agencies providing services to people with disabilities, including those with autism, intellectual/developmental disability, behavioral health, blindness and other sensory needs, offer employment as the first and preferred option; and

WHEREAS, individuals who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened are making significant contributions to the Maine economy and their communities; and

WHEREAS, activities during this month will reinforce the value and talent people with disabilities add to our workplaces and communities and affirm Maine's commitment to increasing access to good jobs for all workers, including disabled workers;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim October 2025 as

Disability Employment Awareness Month

throughout the State of Maine, and I call upon employers, schools, and other community organizations in Maine to observe October with appropriate programs and activities and to ensure that disabled workers have access to good jobs every month of every year.



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 September Two Thousand Twenty-Five

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State