WHEREAS, in 1893, a revision of the military law changed the designation from Maine Volunteer Militia to the State of Maine National Guard; this marked the beginning of a proud tradition where Maine would be protected and serve with citizen soldiers; and

WHEREAS, whether upholding and defending liberty and freedom or providing humanitarian support both domestic and foreign, the Maine National Guard serves proudly and honorably when called upon to support its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, this 125th Legislature convenes on this day to remember the sacrifice of those who served in the Maine National Guard and paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of liberty; and

WHEREAS, LD. 1639 was submitted by Representative Kenneth Fredette and approved by both Legislative bodies, authorizing the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to invite the Adjutant General to appear annually before a joint session of the Legislature to address the legislature on defense, veteran’s services and emergency management matters.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PAUL R. LEPAGE, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim February 16, 2012 to be

A Day of Recognition for Maine National Guard Families Who Have Lost Loved Ones in Defense of Their Country

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

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed Given under my hand at Augusta this sixth day of February Two-Thousand Twelve

Paul R. LePage
Governor

Charles E. Summers, Jr.
Secretary of State