

State of Maine



WHEREAS, seniors are valued members of our communities and our State and it is our collective responsibility to ensure they live safely and with independence and dignity; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse is an ever-increasing problem in today's society as the growing senior population across all socio-economic boundaries is increasingly targeted; and

WHEREAS, there are many types of elder abuse including physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, as well as neglect, abandonment, and financial exploitation; and

WHEREAS, all forms of elder abuse continue to be vastly underreported to law enforcement officials and State agencies, with estimates indicating that 1 out of 5 cases or fewer are currently being reported; and

WHEREAS, many agencies of State government, including the Office of Aging and Disability Services, Adult Protective Services, the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Department of Public Safety are actively engaged in elder abuse education, prevention, and service delivery; and

WHEREAS, numerous non-profit organizations and community groups are devoted to the protection of seniors, such as the Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention, the Maine Triads and Elder Abuse Task Forces, the Maine Long-Term Care Ombudsman Legal Services for the Elderly, the AARP, the Area Agencies on Aging, the Elder Abuse Institute of Maine, and Volunteers of America Northern New England; and

WHEREAS, by recognizing Elder Abuse Awareness Day we raise awareness of elder abuse and financial exploitation and reinforce our universal commitment to protecting seniors in our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the great State of Maine, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2019 as

Elder Abuse Awareness Day

throughout the State of Maine and I 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
tenth day of June Two Thousand Nineteen



Janet T. Mills
Governor

Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

TRUE ATTESTED COPY