

WHEREAS, more than 348,000 Maine citizens are age 60 and over; and

WHEREAS, Maine has the oldest median age in the nation; and

WHEREAS, 1,407 older adults volunteered 352,790 hours in 2018 through Maine's Senior Volunteer Programs valued at \$8,710,385.00; and

WHEREAS, 122 cities and towns across the State have committed to being Communities for a Lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Maine's older citizens are among the most important resources of our State and it is our shared responsibility to respond to and prevent elder abuse; and

WHEREAS, more than 14 percent of all adults are caregivers to someone age 50 or older and more than 50 percent of caregivers are age 50 or older; and

WHEREAS, older adults are maintaining healthy, active lifestyles for themselves and others by becoming trainers for or participating in evidence-based healthy aging programs; and

WHEREAS, civic engagement of older adults through employment, volunteerism, and caregiving benefits citizens of all ages in Maine;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2019, as

Older Americans Month

throughout the State of Maine, and urge all Maine citizens to recognize the contributions of older adults to the State of Maine.

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

> Janet T. Mills Governor

Matthew Dunlap Secretary of State TRUE ATTESTED COPY