

*State of Maine*



**WHEREAS**, domestic abuse and violence are serious injustices that affect people and families of all races, ages, genders and income levels; and

**WHEREAS**, 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men has experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime, and trans and gender non-binary people experience abuse from partners at disproportionate rates; and

**WHEREAS**, each year, nearly half of all homicides in Maine are related to domestic abuse and violence; and

**WHEREAS**, over 14,000 Maine people affected by domestic violence reach out for help each year; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic abuse and violence are preventable through public education initiatives, advocacy for better policies and support systems, resources for people affected by abuse, and holding perpetrators to account; and

**WHEREAS**, we all have a role to play in changing the cultural norms and interrupting the belief systems that underlie abuse and in making abusive behavior socially unacceptable; and

**WHEREAS**, Domestic Violence Awareness Month is an opportunity to shine a critical light on the issue of domestic abuse and violence; and

**WHEREAS**, this October there are opportunities in all corners of our state for Maine people to take action and demonstrate their support for healthy, safe, and joyful communities free from abuse and violence;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby recognize October 2021 as

## **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

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



*Shenna Bellows*  
Shenna Bellows  
Secretary of State

In testimony whereof, I have caused  
the Great Seal of the State to be  
hereunto affixed GIVEN under my  
hand at Augusta this twenty-first day of  
September Two Thousand Twenty-One

Janet T. Mills  
Governor