

*State of Maine*



**WHEREAS**, throughout its history, Maine's economic prosperity has been closely tied to its rich maritime geography, creating thriving industries for fishermen, shipbuilders, sea captains, and the establishment of Maine Maritime Academy by the 90th Maine Legislature on March 21, 1941; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Merchant Marine has acted with courage and heroism, serving the nation in times of conflict from the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, through World War I and World War II, and up until the present day; and

**WHEREAS**, Merchant Mariners have followed the call to action and served a vital role by serving as combatant crews and transporting supplies and troops between the home front and war fronts; and

**WHEREAS**, during World War II alone, more than 250,000 members of the American Merchant Marine served their country, with more than 9,750 giving their lives, hundreds being detained as prisoners of war, and over 800 ships being sunk or damaged while providing supplies to troops; and

**WHEREAS**, today, the Merchant Marine continues to serve its crucial peacetime role, standing ready to serve its country should conflict arise; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Sec. 1.1 MRSA § 127, the State of Maine observes Maine Merchant Marine Day on the 22nd day of May each year;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the great State of Maine, do hereby proclaim May 22, 2020 as

## **Maine Merchant Marine Day**

throughout the State of Maine, and I urge all citizens to observe the day.



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

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

Matthew Dunlap  
Secretary of State

TRUE ATTESTED COPY