

State of Maine



WHEREAS, started in 1988 and recognized annually on December 1st, World AIDS Day is a global event to remember those who have lost their lives to AIDS, and to honor and support those living with and affected by HIV; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, more than 1.2 million people are living with HIV today, while approximately 38 million people are living with the disease worldwide; and

WHEREAS, here in Maine, over 1,600 people have been diagnosed and are currently living with HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, over the last three decades, there have been many advancements in drug treatments for HIV/AIDS that have reduced the transmission and acquisition of HIV, transforming it for many into a manageable chronic condition; and

WHEREAS, because of antiretroviral treatments such as Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), and Treatment as Prevention (TasP), people living with HIV who start these therapies early in the course of infection can now expect a near-normal lifespan; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine recognizes the essential role of the networks of individuals living with and affected by HIV, community health workers, health care providers, organizations, and the advocates who continue to fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic; and

WHEREAS, as we have seen global solidarity and shared responsibility with the COVID-19 pandemic, we must also respond globally to end HIV/AIDS as a public health threat by 2030;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim December 1st, 2020 as

World AIDS Day

throughout the State of Maine, and encourage all citizens to take part in activities and observances designed to increase awareness and understanding of HIV/AIDS as a global challenge, to take part in HIV/AIDS prevention activities and programs, and to join the global effort to prevent the further spread of HIV/AIDS.



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

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State