

State of Maine



WHEREAS, in 1982, the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime envisioned a national commitment to a more equitable and supportive response to victims; and

WHEREAS, crime can leave a lasting impact on any person, regardless of age, national origin, race, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, immigration, or economic status; and

WHEREAS, incorporating communities' existing experts and trusted sources of support into efforts to fully serve survivors will develop a criminal justice system response that is truly accessible and appropriate for all victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, with the unwavering support of their communities and victim service providers behind them, survivors will be empowered to face their grief, loss, fear, anger, and hope without fear of judgment, and will feel understood, heard, and respected; and

WHEREAS, serving victims and rebuilding their trust restores hope to victims and survivors, as well as supports thriving communities; and

WHEREAS, engaging a broader array of healthcare providers, community leaders, faith organizations, educators and businesses can provide new links between victims and services that improve their safety, healing, and access to justice; and

WHEREAS, honoring the rights of victims, including the right to be heard and to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect, and working to meet their needs rebuilds their trust in the criminal justice and social service systems; and

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to ensuring that all victims of crime – especially those who are challenging to reach or serve – are offered culturally and linguistically accessible and appropriate services in the aftermath of crime; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine is hereby dedicated to strengthening victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime, building resilience in our communities and our victim responders, and working for a better future for all victims and survivors;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the week of April 7th through 13th as

Crime Victims' Rights Week

and reaffirm the State of Maine's commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime; and express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service providers, and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving our response to all victims of crime so that they may find relevant assistance support, justice, and peace.



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 March Two Thousand Nineteen

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

TRUE ATTESTED COPY