

## STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 1 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001

January 14, 2025

Honorable Mattie Daughtry Senate President 3 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Ryan Fecteau Speaker of the House 2 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

I am honored to accept your invitation to deliver the State of the Budget Address before a Joint Convention of the Legislature on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

As I recently wrote to the Legislature, with revenues leveling off, maintaining our commitments to Maine people will require us to make difficult choices in the FY 26-27 biennial budget.

Last week, I proposed to you a balanced budget that maintains core commitments to Maine people, including voter-approved health care, 55 percent of education funding, free school meals, free community college, and five percent municipal revenue sharing to stabilize property taxes and support local services. Each of these priorities is adequately funded in my budget proposal.

This proposal also requires difficult choices – including programmatic changes, spending reductions, and targeted revenue enhancements – in order to serve the public's interests and balance the budget, as required by the Maine Constitution.

I know that each of you share my commitment to preserving key programs and services that Maine people count on and to enacting a fiscally responsible biennial budget proposal. I look forward to addressing the Joint Convention of the Legislature, and I am confident that – as we have done before – Republicans, Democrats, and Independents can come together to do what is right for Maine people

Sincerely,

Janet T. Mills Governor

PHONE: (207) 287-3531 (Voice)

