

State of Maine



WHEREAS, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall riots that began on June 28, 1969, and sparked the LGBTQ rights movement in America; and

WHEREAS, during these riots, LGBTQ citizens, led by transgender women of color, rose up and resisted police harassment that arose out of discriminatory criminal laws that have since been declared unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, in the decades since the Stonewall riots, Pride celebrations have taken place around the country every June to commemorate this historic turning point for the LGBTQ community; and

WHEREAS, following the murder of Charlie Howard, a young gay man in Bangor in 1984, LGBTQ Mainers came together to form the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, which later came to be known as EqualityMaine; and

WHEREAS, as a national leader for LGBTQ equality, Maine has included LGBTQ people in the state's hate crimes, parentage, and anti-bullying laws; and

WHEREAS, the people of Maine voted to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in 2005 and in favor of marriage equality in 2012; and

WHEREAS, in just the last year, Maine has added a non-binary gender designation for state IDs, prohibited transgender exclusions in health insurance plans, and banned the harmful practice of conversion therapy; and

WHEREAS, despite years of progress, members of the LGBTQ community in the United States and around the world still face unacceptable levels of discrimination, violence, and proposed roll-backs in statewide and federal protections; and

WHEREAS, here in Maine, we are committed to treating all people fairly and equally and with dignity and respect, and together we will continue to work toward full equality for our LGBTQ friends, family, and neighbors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the great State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the month of June as

LGBTQ Pride Month

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

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



Janet T. Mills
Governor

Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

TRUE ATTESTED COPY