

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;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the great State of Maine, do hereby proclaim May 22, 2019 as

Maine Merchant Marine Day

throughout the State of Maine, and I urge all citizens to observe the day in schools and other suitable places with appropriate ceremony and study.



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

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State
TRUE ATTESTED COPY