

## CHAPTER 5

### COMMEMORATIVE DAYS AND WEEKS

#### **§111. National Arbor Day**

**(REPEALED)**

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1977, c. 214, §2 (RP).

#### **§111-A. Arbor Week**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the 3rd full week in May as Arbor Week, recommending its observance by the public in the planting of trees, shrubs and vines, in the promotion of forest growth and culture, in the adornment of public and private grounds, places and ways, and in such other efforts and undertakings as harmonize with the general character of the week. The Governor shall recommend that the week be observed in rural and suburban schools by exercises appropriate to Arbor Week. [PL 2019, c. 475, §3 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1977, c. 214, §3 (NEW). PL 2019, c. 475, §3 (AMD).

#### **§112. Poetry Day**

The State of Maine designates October 15th as Poetry Day, recommending that in the week following schools, churches, libraries, clubs and organizations, the newspapers, radio and television give recognition to the poets who have helped or are helping to make Maine famous in the field of poetry throughout the world.

#### **§113. American History Month**

The month of February of each year is designated as American History Month and the Governor of the State of Maine shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State of Maine to observe the month of February as such in schools and other suitable places with appropriate ceremony and activity. [PL 1967, c. 53 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1967, c. 53 (NEW).

#### **§114. Armistice Day**

**(REPEALED)**

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1971, c. 12, §1 (NEW). PL 1973, c. 114, §1 (RP).

#### **§115. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

**(REPEALED)**

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1975, c. 7 (NEW). PL 1985, c. 787, §1 (RP).

#### **§116. Statehood Day**

March 15th of each year is designated as Statehood Day, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe the day in schools and other suitable

places with appropriate ceremony and activity. Statehood Day commemorates the admission of Maine as a state into the United States of America and the ideals and wisdom of those people who have formed Maine's history and traditions. The Department of Education shall make appropriate information available to the people and the schools within the limits of its budget. [RR 2023, c. 1, Pt. C, §8 (COR).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1975, c. 642 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 700, §A1 (AMD). RR 2023, c. 1, Pt. C, §8 (COR).

#### **§117. Chester Greenwood Day**

December 21st of each year shall be designated as Chester Greenwood Day and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State of Maine to observe this day in suitable places with appropriate ceremony and activity. Chester Greenwood Day shall commemorate and honor Chester Greenwood, whose inventive genius and native ability, which contributed much to the enjoyment of Maine's winter season, marked him as one of Maine's outstanding citizens. [PL 1977, c. 262 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1977, c. 262 (NEW).

#### **§118. Maine Cultural Heritage Week**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting aside that week containing Statehood Day, March 15th, as Maine Cultural Heritage Week. [PL 1979, c. 294 (NEW).]

The proclamation shall recall Maine's lengthy and important traditions in all the arts including literature, the performing arts and the plastic arts and shall acknowledge the many contributions made by Maine's citizens to folk arts and crafts. [PL 1979, c. 294 (NEW).]

The proclamation shall recommend the observance of Maine Cultural Heritage Week with appropriate celebration and activity, including public celebration and activity in Maine's schools, colleges, universities, theaters, museums, studios, galleries and workshops. [PL 1979, c. 294 (NEW).]

The Maine Arts Commission shall make appropriate information available to the people and the schools within the limits of its budget. [PL 1985, c. 763, Pt. A, §1 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1979, c. 294 (NEW). PL 1985, c. 763, §A1 (AMD).

#### **§119. R. B. Hall Day**

The last Saturday in June of each year shall be designated R. B. Hall Day and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe the day with appropriate ceremony and activity. R. B. Hall Day shall commemorate and honor R. B. Hall, an internationally recognized composer. Recognized primarily as a composer of marches, he was an accomplished conductor and cornet soloist, whose creative talent and native ability marked him as one of Maine's outstanding citizens. [PL 1981, c. 246 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1981, c. 246 (NEW).

#### **§120. Saint Jean-Baptiste Day**

June 24th of each year shall be designated as Saint Jean-Baptiste Day and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe this day in suitable places with appropriate ceremonies. Saint Jean-Baptiste Day shall commemorate the feast of Saint John the Baptist as an important observance and show of appreciation for the significant cultural,

economic and civic contributions made by Franco-Americans which have served to enrich the culture and life style of this State. [PL 1983, c. 8 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 8 (NEW). PL 1983, c. 76 (NEW). PL 1983, c. 480, §A1 (RAL).

#### **§121. Maine Clean Water Week**

The first full week in June of each year shall be designated Maine Clean Water Week. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe the week with appropriate ceremony and activity. [PL 1983, c. 76 (NEW); PL 1983, c. 480, Pt. A, §1 (RAL).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 76 (NEW). PL 1983, c. 480, §A1 (RAL).

#### **§122. National Women's History Week**

**(REPEALED)**

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 719, §1 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 700, §A2 (AMD). MRSA T. 1 §122 (RP).

#### **§123. Sailors' Memorial Day**

The 2nd Sunday in June is designated as Sailors' Memorial Day and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities in honor of the people of the State who have been lost at sea. [RR 2023, c. 1, Pt. C, §9 (COR).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1985, c. 21 (NEW). PL 1985, c. 41, §1 (NEW). PL 1985, c. 737, §A1 (RPR). RR 2023, c. 1, Pt. C, §9 (COR).

#### **§124. Maine Business Women's Week**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting aside the 3rd full week in October as Maine Business Women's Week. The proclamation must invite and urge the people of the State to observe the week in schools and other suitable places with appropriate ceremony and study. The Department of Education may make appropriate information available to the people and the schools within the limits of its budget. [PL 1995, c. 625, Pt. A, §1 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1985, c. 31, §1 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 700, §A3 (AMD). PL 1995, c. 625, §A1 (AMD).

#### **§125. Alcohol Awareness Week**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting aside the first full week in December of each year as Alcohol Awareness Week. The proclamation shall invite and urge citizens, appropriate service agencies, schools and other suitable organizations and groups to observe this week through appropriate activities. [PL 2017, c. 407, Pt. A, §1 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1985, c. 737, §A2 (NEW). PL 2017, c. 407, Pt. A, §1 (AMD).

#### **§126. Samantha Smith Day**

The first Monday in June of each year is designated as Samantha Smith Day, in memory of Samantha Smith whose birthday was June 29th. The Governor shall issue annually a proclamation

inviting and urging the people of this State to observe the day in schools and other suitable places with appropriate ceremony and activity. Samantha Smith Day shall commemorate and honor Samantha Smith whose vision and inspiring message for peace and brotherhood opened the door to greater understanding and friendship among nations of the world. The Department of Education shall make appropriate information available to the people and the schools within the limits of its budget. [PL 1989, c. 700, Pt. A, §4 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 82 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 700, §A4 (AMD).

#### **§127. Maine Merchant Marine Day**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting aside May 22nd as Maine Merchant Marine Day. The proclamation shall invite and urge the people of the State to observe the day in schools and other suitable places with appropriate ceremony and study. The Maine Maritime Academy and the Department of Education may make appropriate information available to the people and the schools within the limits of their budgets. [PL 1989, c. 700, Pt. A, §5 (AMD).]

The purpose of commemorating the United States Merchant Marines is to recognize the courage and heroism of merchant mariners who have served the nation in times of national emergencies. Merchant mariners have valiantly served the nation during periods of international conflict by serving as combatant crews on Letters of Marque during the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 and on armed vessels during the Civil War. In World War I and World War II, they served on ships equipped with naval armament while transporting supplies and troops between the home front and war fronts. Thousands of merchant mariners have been killed, captured or injured in the defense of the nation. [PL 1987, c. 140, §1 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 140, §1 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 700, §A5 (AMD).

#### **§128. Garden Week**

Garden Week shall be established as the first full week of June of each year and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe the week with appropriate celebration and activities. [PL 1987, c. 226 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 226 (NEW).

#### **§129. Margaret Chase Smith Day**

December 14th of each year shall be designated as Margaret Chase Smith Day, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State of Maine to observe this day in suitable places with appropriate ceremony and activity. Margaret Chase Smith Day shall commemorate and honor Margaret Chase Smith who distinguished herself as a political leader of this nation and as one of Maine's outstanding citizens. [PL 1987, c. 610 (NEW).]

The Department of Education shall make appropriate information available to the people and schools within the limits of its budget. [PL 1989, c. 700, Pt. A, §6 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 610 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 700, §A6 (AMD).

#### **§130. Edmund S. Muskie Day**

March 28th of each year shall be designated as Edmund S. Muskie Day and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State of Maine to observe this day in suitable places with appropriate ceremony and activity. Edmund S. Muskie Day shall commemorate

and honor Edmund Sixtus Muskie whose distinguished career as a political leader of this State and nation marks him as one of Maine's outstanding citizens. [PL 1987, c. 610 (NEW).]

The Department of Education shall make appropriate information available to the people and schools within the limits of its budget. [PL 1989, c. 700, Pt. A, §7 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 610 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 700, §A7 (AMD).

#### **§131. Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day**

April 9th of each year shall be designated as Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe this day in suitable places with appropriate ceremony and activity. Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day shall commemorate, honor and recognize the courage and heroism of all former prisoners of war who served the nation in times of crisis and emergency and who were captured in the defense of the nation. [PL 1989, c. 37 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1989, c. 37 (NEW).

#### **§132. Deaf Culture Week**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting aside the last full week in September as Deaf Culture Week. The proclamation must invite and urge the people of the State to observe the week in schools and other suitable places with appropriate ceremony and study. The Department of Education shall make appropriate information available to the people and the schools within its budget. [PL 1991, c. 279, §1 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1991, c. 279, §1 (NEW).

#### **§133. Landowner Recognition Day**

The 3rd Saturday of September of each year is designated as Landowner Recognition Day and the Governor shall issue annually a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe this day in suitable places with appropriate activity. [PL 1995, c. 142, §1 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1995, c. 142, §1 (NEW).

#### **§134. Children's Day**

In recognition of the value and importance of every child, the State designates the last Friday in September as Children's Day. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation urging citizens, businesses and organizations to observe the day with appropriate celebration and activity. [PL 1997, c. 74, §1 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1997, c. 74, §1 (NEW).

#### **§135. Firefighter's Recognition Day**

In recognition of the value and importance of firefighters, the State designates the first Saturday in October as Firefighter's Recognition Day. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation urging the people of the State to observe the day with appropriate celebration and activity. [PL 1999, c. 19, §1 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1999, c. 19, §1 (NEW).

**§136. Prisoner of War - Missing in Action Recognition Day**

The Governor annually shall issue a proclamation designating the 3rd Friday in September as Prisoner of War - Missing in Action Recognition Day in remembrance of the courage and plight of American prisoners of war and those missing in action. The proclamation must recommend that the day be observed in an appropriate manner. The State of Maine flag must be flown at half staff when the Governor considers it appropriate. The Governor may issue the proclamation through a media outlet as defined in Title 3, section 312-A, subsection 10-B. The Department of Education and the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services shall make appropriate information available to citizens, schools, organizations and groups within the limits of their budgets. [PL 2011, c. 490, §1 (AMD); PL 2019, c. 377, §6 (REV).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1999, c. 302, §1 (NEW). PL 2011, c. 490, §1 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 377, §6 (REV).

**§137. Organ Donor Awareness Day**

December 3rd is designated as Organ Donor Awareness Day, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State of Maine to observe the day with appropriate activity. The first annual Organ Donor Awareness Day will commemorate the life of Kate James, who was born December 3, 1980 and who passed away March 6, 1999 at 18 years of age while awaiting a double lung transplant. The observance is created to make Maine citizens aware of the importance of donating organs. In each subsequent year, the Governor, in consultation with Maine organ donation agencies and organizations, shall designate an organ donor, recipient or listed individual to be recognized on that year's Organ Donation Awareness Day. [PL 1999, c. 479, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1999, c. 479, §1 (NEW).

**§138. Major-General Henry Knox Day**

July 25th of each year is designated as Major-General Henry Knox Day, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe this day in suitable places and with appropriate ceremony and activity. The Department of Education shall make appropriate information available to the people and the schools, within its budget, to honor Major-General Henry Knox, of Thomaston, Revolutionary War general and hero and Secretary of War under President George Washington. [PL 1999, c. 666, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1999, c. 666, §1 (NEW).

**§139. Maine Lighthouse Week**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting aside the 3rd full week in June as Maine Lighthouse Week to invite and urge the people of the State to observe this week in suitable places and with appropriate ceremony and activity to honor and commemorate the important role of lighthouses in Maine's history. [PL 2001, c. 5, §1 (NEW).]

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §139. Colonel Freeman McGilvery Day (As enacted by PL 2001, c. 7, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 141)

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §139. Destroyer Escort Day (As enacted by PL 2001, c. 19, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 142)

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §139. Maine Small Business Week (As enacted by PL 2001, c. 36, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 143)

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §139. Veterans' Week (As enacted by PL 2001, c. 100, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 144)

**SECTION HISTORY**

RR 2001, c. 1, §§1-4 (RAL). PL 2001, c. 5, §1 (NEW). PL 2001, c. 7, §1 (NEW). PL 2001, c. 19, §1 (NEW). PL 2001, c. 36, §1 (NEW). PL 2001, c. 100, §1 (NEW).

**§140. Maine Youth Field and Stream Day**

The 2nd Saturday in September of each year is designated as Maine Youth Field and Stream Day. The Governor shall issue annually a proclamation inviting and urging the youth of this State to observe this day by participating in outdoor activities. [PL 2001, c. 68, §1 (NEW).]

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §140. Equal Pay Day (As enacted by PL 2001, c. 304, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 145)

**SECTION HISTORY**

RR 2001, c. 1, §5 (RAL). PL 2001, c. 68, §1 (NEW). PL 2001, c. 304, §1 (NEW).

**§141. Colonel Freeman McGilvery Day**

**(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 139)**

The first Saturday of September of each year is designated as Colonel Freeman McGilvery Day. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation urging the people of the State to observe the day with appropriate celebration and activity. [RR 2001, c. 1, §1 (RAL).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

RR 2001, c. 1, §1 (RAL).

**§142. Destroyer Escort Day**

**(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 139)**

The 3rd Saturday in June of each year is designated as Destroyer Escort Day in this State, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting the people of the State to observe this day in honor of the destroyer escort ships and the people from this State who gallantly served on them as they performed antisubmarine duties, escorted convoys and tankers and performed search and rescue operations for downed pilots and survivors of ill-fated ships during World War II, the Korean Conflict and the War in Vietnam. [RR 2001, c. 1, §2 (RAL).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

RR 2001, c. 1, §2 (RAL).

**§143. Maine Small Business Week**

**(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 139)**

The 3rd week in May, or any other week coinciding with the week designated nationally as Small Business Week, is designated Maine Small Business Week and the Governor shall issue annually a proclamation inviting and urging the citizens and small businesses throughout the State to promote small businesses and the free enterprise system by observing that week with appropriate ceremonies and activities. [RR 2001, c. 1, §3 (RAL).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

RR 2001, c. 1, §3 (RAL).

**§144. Veterans' Week**

**(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 139)**

Each political subdivision and school administrative unit is encouraged to celebrate Veterans' Week during the week, commencing on a Sunday and ending on the next following Saturday, within which November 11th, Veterans' Day, occurs. The celebration may include recognition of the contribution of veterans of the United States and the military service to the foundation of freedom. The celebration may also include public proclamations, appropriate parades and ceremonies and the introduction of curricula in school systems recognizing the efforts of veterans and their contribution to our way of life. During this week, schools may provide an opportunity for convocations and assemblies and in such instances shall make efforts to invite veterans and others to speak on the subject and to cooperate with local veterans' organizations and groups in the celebration of Veterans' Week. [RR 2001, c. 1, §4 (RAL).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

RR 2001, c. 1, §4 (RAL).

#### **§145. Equal Pay Day**

##### **(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 140)**

The first Tuesday in April is designated as Equal Pay Day, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe this day with appropriate activity. [RR 2001, c. 1, §5 (RAL).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

RR 2001, c. 1, §5 (RAL).

#### **§146. Maine Week of Heroes**

Each political subdivision and school administrative unit is encouraged to observe a Maine Week of Heroes during the week, commencing on a Sunday and ending on the next following Saturday, within which September 11th occurs. The observance may include public proclamations, appropriate ceremonies and the introduction of curricula in school systems recognizing the efforts of heroic people in Maine communities, such as active duty military personnel, emergency medical technicians, firefighters, law enforcement officers, members of the National Guard, members of the United States Coast Guard, United States military veterans and all other heroes who have given their courageous service without regard for their own lives or personal safety to benefit the people of this great land and to serve the needs of the citizens of the State. [PL 2003, c. 56, §1 (NEW).]

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §146. Maine Aviation and Aerospace Education Week (As enacted by PL 2003, c. 256, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 147)

#### SECTION HISTORY

RR 2003, c. 1, §1 (RAL). PL 2003, c. 56, §1 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 256, §1 (NEW).

#### **§147. Maine Aviation and Aerospace Education Week**

##### **(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 146)**

The 3rd week in April is designated Maine Aviation and Aerospace Education Week. The Department of Transportation, Office of Passenger Transportation shall participate in the planning of events for this week under the auspices of the Maine Aeronautics Association. [RR 2003, c. 1, §1 (RAL).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

RR 2003, c. 1, §1 (RAL).

#### **§148. Family Reunion Day**

In recognition of the value and importance of families, the State designates the Monday after the first full weekend of August as Family Reunion Day. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation urging citizens, businesses and organizations to observe the day with appropriate celebration and activity. [PL 2005, c. 8, §1 (NEW).]

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §148. Community Giving Week (As enacted by PL 2005, c. 20, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 149)

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2005, c. 8, §1 (NEW). PL 2005, c. 20, §1 (NEW). PL 2005, c. 397, §B1 (RAL). PL 2005, c. 397, §B2 (AFF).

#### **§149. Community Giving Week**

##### **(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 148)**

The 3rd full week in November of each year is designated as Community Giving Week, and the Governor shall issue annually a proclamation inviting and urging people of the State to observe this week in suitable places with appropriate activity. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. B, §1 (RAL); PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. B, §2 (AFF).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2005, c. 397, §B1 (RAL). PL 2005, c. 397, §B2 (AFF).

#### **§150. Cancer Awareness Week**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting aside November 1st to November 7th each year as Cancer Awareness Week and November 1st as Lung Cancer Awareness Day. The proclamation must invite and urge citizens, health agencies, schools and other suitable organizations and groups to observe this week through appropriate activities. [PL 2007, c. 27, §1 (NEW).]

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §150. Missing Persons Day (As enacted by PL 2007, c. 28, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 150-B)

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2007, c. 27, §1 (NEW). PL 2007, c. 28, §1 (NEW). PL 2007, c. 695, Pt. A, §1 (RAL).

#### **§150-A. Cold War Victory Day**

In recognition of the long and costly struggle of the Cold War, from the end of World War II to the fall of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the State designates the first day of May as Cold War Victory Day. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation urging citizens, businesses and organizations to observe the day with appropriate activity to celebrate democracy's victory. [PL 2007, c. 330, §1 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2007, c. 330, §1 (NEW).

#### **§150-B. Missing Persons Day**

##### **(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 150)**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation establishing May 25th as Missing Persons Day. The proclamation must invite and urge citizens, law enforcement agencies, family service agencies and other suitable organizations and groups to observe this day through appropriate activities. [PL 2007, c. 695, Pt. A, §1 (RAL).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2007, c. 695, Pt. A, §1 (RAL).

**§150-C. Native American Veterans Day**

The Governor annually shall issue a proclamation designating June 21st as Native American Veterans Day in remembrance of the courage and dedicated service of Native American members of the United States Armed Forces, and the Governor shall urge the people of the State to observe this day in suitable places and with appropriate ceremony and activity. [PL 2009, c. 51, §1 (NEW).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2009, c. 51, §1 (NEW).

**§150-D. Wyeth Day**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation designating July 12th of each year as Wyeth Day in recognition of the birthday of Andrew Wyeth, one of America's great artists. The observance is created to honor Andrew Wyeth, who had long and lasting ties with this State, and his family and their strong contributions to the State's artistic and cultural heritage and is meant to coincide with appropriate commemorative activities throughout the State. The Department of Education shall make appropriate information available to the people and the schools within the limits of its budget. [PL 2009, c. 210, §1 (NEW).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2009, c. 210, §1 (NEW).

**§150-E. Lyme Disease Awareness Month**

The month of May of each year is designated as Lyme Disease Awareness Month, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe the month through appropriate activities. During the month, the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention shall make information available to the public to improve education and awareness about the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of Lyme disease that is consistent with the recommendations of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. [PL 2009, c. 494, §1 (NEW).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2009, c. 494, §1 (NEW).

**§150-F. Governor William King Day**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation indicating March 16th of each year as Governor William King Day in honor of the first Governor of Maine, a proponent of statehood for Maine. [PL 2011, c. 17, §1 (NEW).]

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §150-F. Juneteenth Independence Day (As enacted by PL 2011, c. 53, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 150-H)

## SECTION HISTORY

RR 2011, c. 1, §1 (RAL). PL 2011, c. 17, §1 (NEW). PL 2011, c. 53, §1 (NEW).

**§150-G. Vietnam War Veterans Day**

In recognition of the service and sacrifice of those veterans of the United States Armed Forces who served during the Vietnam War, the State designates March 29th of each year as Vietnam War Veterans Day. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation urging the people of the State to observe the day with appropriate celebration and activity. [PL 2021, c. 525, §1 (AMD).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2011, c. 92, §1 (NEW). PL 2021, c. 525, §1 (AMD).

**§150-H. Juneteenth Independence Day****(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 150-F)**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation designating the 3rd Saturday in June as Juneteenth Independence Day to commemorate the day freedom was proclaimed to all slaves in the South by Union General Gordon Granger in 1865, 2 1/2 years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed. [RR 2011, c. 1, §1 (RAL).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

RR 2011, c. 1, §1 (RAL).

**§150-I. Maine Korean War Veteran Recognition Day**

In recognition of the service and contributions of those veterans of the United States Armed Forces who served during the Korean War, the State designates July 27th of each year as Maine Korean War Veteran Recognition Day. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation urging the people of the State to observe the day with appropriate celebration and activity. [PL 2013, c. 26, §1 (NEW).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 2013, c. 26, §1 (NEW).

**§150-J. Invite Your Maine Legislator to School Month**

January is designated Invite Your Maine Legislator to School Month, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging teachers, school administrators and Legislators to observe this month through appropriate activities, including inviting Legislators to visit school classrooms to meet with teachers, school administrators and students in order to promote increased knowledge among Legislators of the prekindergarten to grade 12 public education programs provided to students in their legislative districts. [PL 2013, c. 103, §1 (NEW).]

Within available resources, the Department of Education shall make appropriate information available to teachers, school administrators and students through the department's publicly accessible website. [PL 2013, c. 103, §1 (NEW).]

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §150-J. Maine Seniors Day (As enacted by PL 2013, c. 143, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 150-K)

**SECTION HISTORY**

RR 2013, c. 1, §1 (RAL). PL 2013, c. 103, §1 (NEW). PL 2013, c. 143, §1 (NEW).

**§150-K. Maine Seniors Day****(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 150-J)**

In recognition of the service and contributions of senior citizens in the State, and for those who continue to enhance the quality of life in the State with their values and experiences, the State designates the 2nd Saturday in September of each year as Maine Seniors Day. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation urging the people of the State to observe the day with appropriate celebration and activity and encouraging businesses of the State to offer incentives for senior citizens to frequent their establishments. State agencies with promotional budgets may promote Maine Seniors Day prior to and on the 2nd Saturday in September. [RR 2013, c. 1, §1 (RAL).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

RR 2013, c. 1, §1 (RAL).

**§150-L. Native American Heritage and Culture Day**

In recognition of the service and sacrifice of Maine Indian tribes since the beginning of our nation in support for its liberties, and to recognize the thousands of years of Native American heritage and the culture Maine Indian tribes have contributed to the State, the Governor annually shall issue a proclamation designating March 20th as Native American Heritage and Culture Day, and the Governor shall urge the people of the State to observe this day in suitable places and with appropriate ceremony and activity. [PL 2015, c. 19, §1 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2015, c. 19, §1 (NEW).

#### **§150-M. Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day**

Each political subdivision and school administrative unit is encouraged to celebrate Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day on November 1st of each year. The celebration may include recognition of the contributions of veterans of the United States Armed Forces and their military service past and present, promotion of the significant contributions veterans have made to the arts and humanities and public awareness of the talent of those veterans now working in a variety of artistic fields. The celebration may also include public proclamations, appropriate parades and ceremonies and the introduction of curricula in school systems recognizing the efforts of veterans and their contributions to our way of life, including the arts and humanities. The Governor may annually issue a proclamation urging the people of the State to observe the day with appropriate celebration and activity. [PL 2015, c. 399, §1 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2015, c. 399, §1 (NEW).

#### **§150-N. Maine Community Litter Cleanup Day**

The first Saturday in May is designated Maine Community Litter Cleanup Day, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the citizens of the State to observe this day through appropriate activities such as removing litter from roads. [PL 2017, c. 41, §1 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2017, c. 41, §1 (NEW).

#### **§150-O. Maine Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

The month of March of each year is designated as Maine Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe the month through appropriate activities and to become informed about childhood cancer. [PL 2019, c. 569, §1 (NEW).]

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §150-O. First Responders Day (As enacted by PL 2019, c. 570, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 150-P)

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2019, c. 569, §1 (NEW). PL 2019, c. 570, §1 (NEW).

#### **§150-P. First Responders Day**

#### **(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 150-O)**

September 11th of each year is designated as First Responders Day, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe the day in schools and other suitable places and with appropriate ceremony, celebration and activity. First Responders Day commemorates and honors the significant contributions of those who put their lives in danger to keep the people of this State safe, including law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, game wardens, forest rangers and marine patrol officers. [RR 2019, c. 2, Pt. A, §1 (RAL).]

## SECTION HISTORY

RR 2019, c. 2, Pt. A, §1 (RAL).

**§150-Q. James Weldon Johnson Day**

The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation designating June 17th of each year as James Weldon Johnson Day in honor of writer and civil rights activist James Weldon Johnson. [PL 2021, c. 287, §1 (NEW).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2021, c. 287, §1 (NEW).

**§150-R. Safe Homes Awareness Month**

The month of September of each year is designated as Safe Homes Awareness Month and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation to raise awareness among the people of the State of the importance of safety in the home and of the existence of and assistance that is available from the Safe Homes Program established in Title 25, section 7001. [PL 2021, c. 575, §1 (NEW).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2021, c. 575, §1 (NEW).

**§150-S. Maine Needham Day**

The last Saturday in September of each year is designated as Maine Needham Day, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation recognizing the needham's place in the State's cultural and culinary traditions. A state agency may promote Maine Needham Day prior to and on the last Saturday in September using appropriate existing budgeted resources. [PL 2023, c. 10, §1 (NEW).]

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §150-T. Maine Alewife Day (As enacted by PL 2023, c. 11, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 150-T)

**REVISOR'S NOTE:** §150-U. Maine Irish Heritage Day (As enacted by PL 2023, c. 47, §1 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 1, SECTION 150-U)

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2023, c. 10, §1 (NEW).

**§150-T. Maine Alewife Day**

**(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 150-S)**

The Saturday before Memorial Day of each year is designated as Maine Alewife Day, and the Governor shall issue annually a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe this day in suitable places with appropriate activity. [PL 2023, c. 11, §1 (NEW); RR 2023, c. 1, Pt. A, §1 (RAL).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2023, c. 11, §1 (NEW). RR 2023, c. 1, Pt. A, §1 (RAL).

**§150-U. Maine Irish Heritage Day**

**(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 1, SECTION 150-S)**

March 17th of each year is designated as Maine Irish Heritage Day in recognition of the contribution of Irish immigrants to the State and their descendants, and the Governor shall issue annually a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe this day in suitable places with appropriate activity. [PL 2023, c. 47, §1 (NEW); RR 2023, c. 1, Pt. A, §2 (RAL).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2023, c. 47, §1 (NEW). RR 2023, c. 1, Pt. A, §2 (RAL).

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