

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

**JOINT RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF
SAMANTHA SMITH**

WHEREAS, Samantha Smith, a Maine native, looked upon the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union with the innocence of a ten-year-old child; and

WHEREAS, through a letter to Soviet Premier Yuri Andropov, Samantha Smith expressed her fears of the possible threat of nuclear holocaust; and

WHEREAS, after receiving the letter, Premier Andropov invited Samantha Smith to visit the Soviet Union, where she learned that its citizens, especially its children, were very similar to those in Maine; and

WHEREAS, as one of our country's youngest ambassadors for peace, Samantha Smith helped ease the tensions between the 2 countries, opening the door to greater understanding and friendship among nations of the world; and

WHEREAS, while at the age of thirteen Samantha Smith died tragically in a plane crash before the Cold War truly ended, her legacy of peace and goodwill still lives on; and

WHEREAS, the first Monday in June of each year is designated as Samantha Smith Day, in memory of Samantha Smith whose birthday was June 29th; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the members of the One hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, pause in our deliberations to honor the life and legacy of Samantha Smith and to celebrate the power of the individual voice to change the world for the better.