

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2026 AS
CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH**

WHEREAS, dental caries is the most common chronic disease found in children; and

WHEREAS, through dental education and regular preventive dental care, tooth decay is almost completely preventable; and

WHEREAS, good oral health habits start in childhood, and parents and caregivers who are educated about the importance of oral health are empowered to embrace appropriate oral hygiene and dietary behaviors and make and keep dental appointments for their children; and

WHEREAS, research shows that, through supervised tooth brushing programs and preventive dental care, children can reduce the occurrence of dental-related illness, which starts as early as first grade and causes children in the United States to miss 51,000,000 hours of school time each year; and

WHEREAS, through a balanced diet, brushing and flossing after every meal and regular dental checkups, children can avoid dental caries and remain healthy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to designate February 2026 as Children's Dental Health Month and to encourage the raising of public awareness about the importance of preventive dental care for all children.