

**STATE OF MAINE**

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**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD**

**TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MAY 2025 AS CYSTIC  
FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH IN MAINE**

**WHEREAS**, cystic fibrosis is a genetic disease affecting nearly 70,000 children and adults worldwide and approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States, 268 of whom live in Maine; and

**WHEREAS**, in cystic fibrosis, a defective gene causes the body to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs, and these secretions produce life-threatening lung infections and obstruct the pancreas, preventing digestive enzymes from reaching the intestines to help break down and absorb food; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 10,000,000 Americans are symptomless carriers of the defective cystic fibrosis gene, and cystic fibrosis occurs in approximately one of every 3,500 live births in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the median age of survival for a person with cystic fibrosis is 41.1 years; and

**WHEREAS**, with advances in the treatment of cystic fibrosis, the number of adults with cystic fibrosis has steadily grown, and approximately 1,000 new cases of cystic fibrosis are diagnosed each year; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 50% of the cystic fibrosis population is 18 years of age and older, and people with cystic fibrosis have a variety of symptoms attributed to the more than 1,800 mutations of the cystic fibrosis gene; and

**WHEREAS**, infant blood screening to detect genetic defects is the most reliable and least costly method to identify persons likely to have cystic fibrosis; and

**WHEREAS**, early diagnosis of cystic fibrosis permits early treatment and enhances quality of life and longevity, and the treatment of cystic fibrosis depends on the stage of the disease and the organs involved; and

**WHEREAS**, clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part of the daily cystic fibrosis treatment regimen, and other types of treatments include inhaled antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes, among others; and

**WHEREAS**, there are 3 world-class treatment centers in Maine that specialize in the diagnosis of cystic fibrosis and the care of persons with cystic fibrosis; and

**WHEREAS**, a critical component of treating patients with cystic fibrosis is access to innovative medicines, which can play a crucial role in the lives of patients with cystic fibrosis; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to designate May 2025 as "Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month" in Maine and to

recognize that improving the length and quality of life for people with cystic fibrosis starts with awareness.