

STATE OF MAINE

—
**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE**

—
**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING IMMIGRANT HERITAGE
MONTH**

WHEREAS, since 2014, Immigrant Heritage Month has provided an opportunity for people across the United States to celebrate their own immigrant heritage, the contributions of their immigrant neighbors and the diversity of our country; and

WHEREAS, over 47,000 Maine residents were born in other countries and over 90,000 Maine residents were born in the United States to at least one immigrant parent; and

WHEREAS, immigrants are integral to Maine's future success and are leaders in municipal governments, schools, businesses, nonprofit organizations, community centers and religious institutions across the State; and

WHEREAS, Maine's immigrant communities contribute to the prosperity and strength of virtually every sector in Maine's economy; and

WHEREAS, immigrants contribute to Maine in every aspect of culture, including literature, art, music, cuisine, customs and more; and

WHEREAS, many of Maine's immigrants left their home countries due to conflict, economic hardship and infringements on their civil rights and liberties; and

WHEREAS, both the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Maine recognize and protect the inherent rights of all people, including citizen and noncitizen immigrants; and

WHEREAS, as a state, Maine must uphold the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Maine by preserving and defending the rights of all persons on our nation's soil; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize June 2021 as Immigrant Heritage Month in Maine; and be it further

RESOLVED: That We celebrate the countless and monumental contributions of Maine's immigrants to our state and nation.