

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 18, 2023 AS WORLD
AMATEUR RADIO DAY**

WHEREAS, amateur radio provides a bridge between people, societies and countries by creating friendships and sharing ideas; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio communication has evolved from crude spark-gap technology to true digital communication, integrating the use of computers and radio to communicate locally as well as worldwide, and amateur radio operators are continually pushing technical boundaries through experimentation and innovation; and

WHEREAS, on April 18, 1925, the International Amateur Radio Union was founded, which illustrates how international cooperation and communication are hallmarks of amateur radio; and

WHEREAS, the International Amateur Radio Union has given amateur radio a voice in developing international agreements that allow amateurs to communicate over international borders; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 2,500,000 amateur radio operators worldwide, with nearly 780,000 in the United States and approximately 4,500 in the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, each year on April 18th, amateur radio operators throughout the world celebrate World Amateur Radio Day and sponsor special events to promote and publicize amateur radio; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio is a licensed service for noncommercial use and, during emergencies or natural disasters, such as the ice storm of 1998, Hurricane Katrina, the Boston Marathon bombing and countless other emergency situations, is often the only dependable way to communicate locally or internationally; and

WHEREAS, many Maine amateur radio operators serve their local and county emergency management agencies by training and holding exercises to prepare for when their skills are needed during times of emergency; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators volunteer their equipment and time to provide this valuable service, and Maine amateur radio operators routinely provide public service communications for such events as the Dempsey Challenge, the Trek Across Maine, the TD Beach to Beacon 10K Road Race, the New England Forest Rally, the Kenduskeag Stream Canoe Race, the Can-Am Crown International Sled Dog Race, the Loon Echo Bike Trek, the Mount Desert Island Marathon and the Northwoods Gravel Grind; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize and acknowledge the accomplishments and public service provided by amateur radio operators as they celebrate World Amateur Radio Day on the 98th anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the American Radio Relay League and the International Amateur Radio Union.