

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 10, 2024 TO  
MARCH 16, 2024 AS MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AWARENESS  
WEEK

**WHEREAS**, multiple sclerosis is a neurological disease of the central nervous system affecting more than 2,800,000 people worldwide; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society estimates that nearly 1,000,000 people in the United States are living with multiple sclerosis, finds that the highest prevalence rates in the United States are found in the New England region and reports that the disease generally strikes people between the ages of 20 and 50 and that the cause and course of the often debilitating symptoms of multiple sclerosis remain unknown with no cure currently existing; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been committed for more than 78 years to a world free of multiple sclerosis, and the society raises public knowledge about and insight into the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, since its inception, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been at the forefront of multiple sclerosis research, pursuing prevention, treatments and a cure, with more than \$1.2 billion invested in groundbreaking research; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society partners with the health care community to promote access to comprehensive, high-quality health care and has launched the careers of 120 multiple sclerosis specialists, providing care to more than 100,000 people with multiple sclerosis and greatly improving the treatment and support of people with multiple sclerosis; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society provides multiple sclerosis patients access to MS Navigators, who are dedicated partners who address individual challenges and concerns, ensuring personalized and effective support for every patient affected by multiple sclerosis; and

**WHEREAS**, stopping the progress of multiple sclerosis, restoring what has been lost and ending multiple sclerosis forever is the mission of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and one that all should support; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize March 10, 2024 to March 16, 2024 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week and encourage all Maine citizens to learn more about multiple sclerosis and what they can do to support people with multiple sclerosis and their families; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That we recognize the critical importance of advancing research to find the cause and cure of multiple sclerosis and express our appreciation for the dedication that the

Greater New England Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has shown toward creating a world free of multiple sclerosis; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Greater New England Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.