

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 20, 2025 AS WORLD
REFUGEE DAY IN MAINE**

WHEREAS, World Refugee Day was launched by the United Nations in 2000 to honor the bravery, strength and determination of refugees around the world who have been forced to flee their home countries under threat of conflict, violence, persecution and natural disaster; and

WHEREAS, more than 100 million people worldwide have been forcibly displaced from their homes due to conflict, persecution, natural disasters and human rights violations; and

WHEREAS, refugees resettle across the welcoming state of Maine in hopes of finding peace and safety for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, for over 45 years, refugees from diverse social, cultural, racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds with a variety of skills, abilities and experiences have resettled in Maine and have been woven into the fabric of Maine's vibrant cultural tapestry; and

WHEREAS, refugee-led organizations in Maine share with the State the work of strengthening communities by engaging with and improving the lives of all Maine people through fair and equitable access to education, health care and employment; and

WHEREAS, refugee-owned and immigrant-owned businesses are important contributors to the economic and social vitality of communities across the State, supporting local economies and employing local people; 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 recognize June 20, 2025 as World Refugee Day in Maine and the positive impact and enduring contributions of refugee communities in the State.