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My name is Ahmed Ali, and I am a high school student from the Lewiston-Auburn area. Today, I am here to advocate for the recognition of Eid Al-Fitr and Eid Al-Adha as official state holidays in Maine.

Eid is a significant time for many of us in the Muslim community. It represents a time of celebration, reflection, and togetherness with family and friends after a month of fasting and prayer during Ramadan, and it marks the end of the Hajj pilgrimage. Just like Christmas and Thanksgiving, Eid is a time for us to come together, share meals, and celebrate our faith and culture.

Recognizing Eid as a state holiday would mean a lot to us. It would not only acknowledge the diversity of our community but also promote understanding and respect among all residents of Maine. We hope to receive the same recognition and respect for our holiday as others do. Thank you for considering our request, and we look forward to your support in making Eid Al-Fitr and Eid Al-Adha official holidays in Maine.