

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF APRIL 1,
2023 TO APRIL 7, 2023 AS THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD**

WHEREAS, the Maine Association for the Education of Young Children and the National Association for the Education of Young Children are celebrating the Week of the Young Child, April 1, 2023 to April 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, these groups are committed to the healthy development of all young children in Maine through strengthening and building systems of equitable access to high-quality early childhood education; and

WHEREAS, children's cognitive, physical, social and emotional development and language and literacy development are built on a foundation of their positive interactions with adults, peers and their environment; and

WHEREAS, Maine's early childhood education workforce is vital to providing a nurturing and educational foundation of early care and learning experiences for young children; and

WHEREAS, seventy percent of children under 6 years of age in Maine have all available parents in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, access to high-quality child care is a necessity for many families in our community to participate in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, high-quality early childhood programs provide important benefits to children, families and state and national economies; and

WHEREAS, celebrating the Week of the Young Child enables the recognition and advancement of the early childhood education profession; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize April 1, 2023 to April 7, 2023 as the Week of the Young Child and encourage all residents to work to support and invest in early childhood in the State.