

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MUSLIM
CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADAN**

WHEREAS, Ramadan is the 9th month in the Islamic calendar, a significant holy month in the Islamic faith and a month of sacrifice in which Muslims fast the entirety of the month, abstaining from food and drink from sunrise to sunset; and

WHEREAS, commencement of Ramadan begins on the evening of March 10, 2024, and Ramadan continues for one lunar month; and

WHEREAS, Ramadan is the holy month when millions of Muslims in the United States fast not only to renew themselves spiritually but also to recognize their responsibility and obligations to society at large and to take care of those less fortunate, regardless of their religious or racial background; and

WHEREAS, Muslims in Maine contribute greatly to charitable organizations that help people from all faith backgrounds and have also contributed greatly to society, serving as medical professionals, teachers, first responders, journalists, writers, artists, athletes, small business owners, professors, activists, community leaders and elected public officials; and

WHEREAS, Muslims in Maine have a long history of contributions to our State, including the building of one of the first mosques in North America in Biddeford in 1915; and

WHEREAS, Eid al-Fitr is celebrated by Muslims worldwide as the day that marks the end of the month-long sunrise-to-sunset fasting of Ramadan; 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, in observance of and out of respect for the commencement of Ramadan, the Muslim holy month of fasting, prayer, charity, reflection and spiritual renewal, take this opportunity to recognize the onset of Ramadan and express our deepest respect to Muslims in Maine and throughout the world on this significant occasion; and be it further

RESOLVED: That We extend best wishes to all those of Muslim faith in Maine, the United States and across the world for a joyous and meaningful observance of Eid al-Fitr.