Office of
The Governor

NO. 20 FY 20/21
DATE December 23, 2020

AN ORDER EXTENDING THE MAINE BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION'S TERMS

WHEREAS, I proclaimed a state of emergency on March 15, 2020 and renewed states of emergency on April 14, 2020, May 13, 2020, June 9, 2020, July 8, 2020, August 5, 1020, September 2, 2020, September 30, 2020, October 27, 2020, November 24, 2020, and December 22, 2020 to authorize the use of emergency powers in order to expand and expedite the State's response to the serious health and safer; risks of the highly contagious COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, this Order is necessary to address administrative, compliance and enforcement issues identified by the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Department of Public Safety, law enforcement and other officials; and

WHEREAS, the year 2020 marked the bicentennial of the formation of the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, in order to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the Commission was required to postpone events to commemorate Maine's bicentennial until such time as they are safe to conduct; and

WHEREAS, the Commission's authority to coordinate postponed bicentennial events will expire at the end of this calendar year; and

WHEREAS, these issues require the extension of certain deadlines to ensure the Legislature's intent can be fulfilled; and

WHEREAS, the governor's emergency powers expressly include the authorities to adjust time frames and deadlines imposed by law and to suspend the enforcement of a statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, pursuant to 37-B M.R.S.

Ch. 13, including but not limited to 37-B M.R.S. § 742(1)(C)(1), (12), (13)(a) and § 834, do hereby Order as follows:

I. ORDER

A. Notwithstanding any part of Resolves 2017, ch. 25 to the contrary, the terms of the appointed members of the Maine Bicentennial Commission, and the authority of the Commission pursuant to that Resolve, is hereby extended to enable the Commission to conduct the postponed commemorative events and programs for the people of Maine in a manner that comports with public health protocols for the duration of the civil emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the December 31, 2020 deadline contained in Resolves 2015, ch. 23 and 29-A M.R.S. § 454(2) is hereby extended for the duration of the civil emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

II. EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this Order is December 23, 2020.

Janet T. Mills
Governor