

STATE OF MAINE

—
**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND AND THIRTEEN**
—

**JOINT RESOLUTION INVITING ALL PEOPLE FROM MAINE
LIVING HERE AND AWAY TO RECONNECT WITH THE STATE**

WHEREAS, the State of Maine is blessed with abundant natural beauty and is known throughout the world for its scenic seacoast, its beautiful mountains, its lakes and rivers and its millions of acres of woodlands; and

WHEREAS, Maine's population currently is at 1,320,000, the most people it has ever had since Maine became a state; and

WHEREAS, Maine is the 39th largest state in the Nation, and with its population and its size can still offer miles of wilderness and space for all to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, many people move to Maine for the natural beauty the State provides and for the healthy and high quality of life and for the peaceful and friendly towns, cities and countryside; and

WHEREAS, each area of Maine is rich in history and Maine is known for its seafaring legacy, its rural culture, its logging, agriculture, paper-making and lobstering industries, its fishing heritage and its famous tradition of serving as Vacationland to an international community for boating, camping, hunting, hiking, skiing and many other activities; and

WHEREAS, many people born and raised in Maine have had to leave the State, due to job opportunities or other reasons, and most people who have had to leave Maine always remember the State of Maine with happy memories and good feelings; and

WHEREAS, those who now live out of state continue to enjoy visits and connections with those who live in Maine; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to invite all the Maine people who have moved out of state to return to Maine and enjoy what they have missed and to make the summer of 2014 a time to reconnect and rediscover the State of Maine; and be it further

RESOLVED: That We invite authors, actors, businesspersons, retirees, students and people serving in the Armed Forces who used to live in Maine to come back to Maine and celebrate their Maine heritage and to enjoy such experiences as the 2014 World Acadian Congress, the visits from tall ships, the North Atlantic Blues Festival in Rockland, the various state fairs and festivals, such as the Common Ground Fair, the Yarmouth Clam Festival, the American Folk Festival in Bangor and many other events that exemplify the good times that happen in the State; and be it further

RESOLVED: That We urge schools to reach out to alumni, families to have reunions and state and local governments to emphasize all the good that is in Maine and commit to getting all current and former residents of the State to reconnect with each other.