

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, gender, and income levels; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is widespread and affects over 4 million Americans each year; and

WHEREAS, one in three Americans have witnessed an incident of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, children that grow up in violent homes are believed to be abused and neglected at a rate higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS, only a coordinated community effort will put a stop to this heinous crime; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing domestic violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN E. BALDACCI, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim October, 2010 as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the State of Maine, and urge all citizens to recognize this observance.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this thirteenth day of September Two Thousand and Ten.

> John E. Baldacci Governor

Matthew Dunlap Secretary of State TRUE ATTESTED COPY