

WHEREAS, sexual assault affects women, children and men of all racial, cultural and economic background; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the immediate physical and emotional costs, sexual assault may also have associated consequences of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, depression, homelessness, eating disorders and suicide; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault can be devastating for not only the survivor, but also for the family and friends of the survivor; and

WHEREAS, no one person organization, agency or community can eliminate sexual assault on their own, but we can work together to educate our entire population about what can be done to prevent sexual assault, support victim/survivors and their significant others, and increase support for agencies providing services to victim/survivors; and

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing sexual violence,

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

SEXUAL ASSAULT 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 second day of March Two Thousand and Ten.

> John E. Baldacci Governor

Matthew Dunlap Secretary of State TRUE ATTESTED COPY