

STATE OF MAINE

**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE**

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 15, 2021 AS WORLD
ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY**

WHEREAS, throughout the United States, 10,000 people a day are turning 65 years of age; and

WHEREAS, one in 10 Americans 60 years of age and older experiences abuse each year; and

WHEREAS, at least \$2,900,000,000 is taken from older adults each year due to financial abuse and exploitation; and

WHEREAS, abuse, neglect and exploitation of older adults in the United States are often unidentified and unreported because of an inability to report or a fear of reporting; and

WHEREAS, older adults who are abused are 3 times more likely to die earlier than older adults of the same age who are not abused; and

WHEREAS, Maine's seniors are valued members of society, and it is our collective responsibility to ensure that they live safe lives; and

WHEREAS, seniors should be treated with respect and dignity to enable them to continue to serve as leaders, mentors, volunteers and active members of society; and

WHEREAS, combating abuse and empowering the elderly will help improve the quality of life and independence of all seniors across the State; and

WHEREAS, we are all responsible for building safer communities for Maine's seniors by reporting elder abuse and neglect when we suspect it; and

WHEREAS, the welfare of seniors is in the best interest of all citizens and adds to the well-being of all our communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize June 15, 2021 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and the importance of raising awareness of elder abuse and the promotion of better understanding of the cultural, social, economic and demographic issues that may contribute to the growing incidence of elder abuse.