



WHEREAS, entrepreneurship is vital to the State of Maine's growth and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, many of the new jobs created throughout the United States in the past decade have come from the creative efforts of entrepreneurs and small businesses; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce, more than 2300 people became independent entrepreneurs daily, joining more than 20 million self-employed, that make up more than 75% of the nation's 26 million plus business firms nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the National Governors Association encourages connecting education to economic growth industries, recognizing that entrepreneurship and small business creation are the growth engines of any economy; and

WHEREAS, a broad coalition of partner organizations in Maine and throughout the United States are actively engaged in enhancing entrepreneurial opportunities through collaboration and cooperation with the national Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education; and

WHEREAS, encouraging youth to be excited about entrepreneurship, and working to expand the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of Maine's youth and adults to be successful entrepreneurs are crucial to the long-term growth of local communities and the state; and

WHEREAS, Maine's Career and Technical Student Organizations offer an array of programs, activities, and competitive events focused on entrepreneurship; and

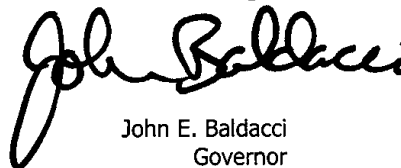
WHEREAS, National Entrepreneurship Week provides an opportunity to focus on the innovative ways in which entrepreneurship education can bring together the core academic, technical, and problem solving skills essential for future entrepreneurs and successful workers in future workplaces,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN E. BALDACCI, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the week of February 23 – March 1, 2008 as

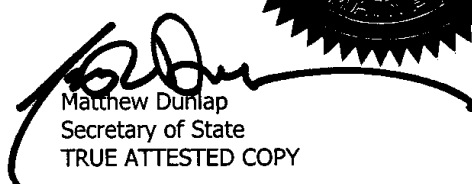
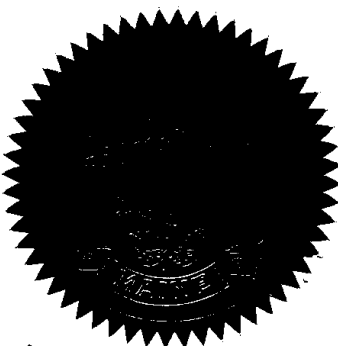
ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK

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 January
Two Thousand and Eight.



John E. Baldacci
Governor



Matthew Durlap
Secretary of State
TRUE ATTESTED COPY