

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 identified 43 million persons with disabilities in this nation; and

WHEREAS, 70 percent of all Americans will, at some time in their lives, have a temporary or permanent disability that will prevent stair climbing; and

WHEREAS, 32 million Americans are currently over age 65 and many older citizens acquire vision, hearing and physical disabilities as part of the aging process; and

WHEREAS, many older Americans are faced with the prospect of leaving their homes because they are not accessible; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated one of every three persons in the United States will need accessible housing at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, the need for accessible single-family homes is growing; and

WHEREAS, the need for public information and education in the area of accessible single-family homes is increasing; and

WHEREAS, this nation has placed a high priority on integrating Americans with disabilities into our communities and our homes,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN R. McKERNAN, JR., Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim December, 1991 as

ACCESSIBLE HOUSING MONTH

throughout the State of Maine.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this twelfth day of December in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-One.

JOHN R. MCKERNAN, JR.

Governor

G. William Diamond Secretary of State