

State of Maine



WHEREAS, the winter season offers a unique opportunity to experience the natural winter beauty of Maine's mountains, hills and coastline, deep natural snowfall, and scenic views from Maine's snow sports centers; and

WHEREAS, skiing was first recorded in Maine in 1870 and remains embedded in the fabric of Maine lifestyle 140 years later; and

WHEREAS, outdoor recreation positively impacts all counties in Maine, extending from the ocean shores to the summit of our highest mountains; and

WHEREAS, skiing and snowboarding are life long, healthy, outdoor winter activities, which contribute to a healthier lifestyle for Maine residents; and

WHEREAS, encouraging participation in snow sports is the primary mission of Ski Maine Association members who represent the Alpine Ski Areas and Nordic Centers across the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, skiing and snowboarding employs thousands of Maine residents in seasonal and year -round positions, providing an important economic boost to rural communities during the winter; and

WHEREAS, skiing and snowboarding is an important sector of Maine's \$10.6 billion tourism industry, which directly supports 140,000 jobs, \$3.04 billion in total earnings, and returns \$429 million in tax revenue to the General and Highway Funds; and

WHEREAS, snow sport centers in Maine range in size from local community centers dependent upon volunteers in the community, to destination resorts of international fame, and teaching facilities are available at all snow sports centers providin g easy access to learn the necessary skills for winter sports; and

WHEREAS, SNOW SPORTS CENTERS IN Maine host the highest levels of international competition in Alpine skiing and snowboarding, Nordic skiing, and biathlon; and

WHEREAS, Maine's first win ter Olympic Gold Medalist, Seth Wescott of Farmington, brought international recognition to Maine in the inaugural snowboarder cross competition at the 2006 winter Olympics, and

WHEREAS, Maine's ski and snowboard areas boast the longest operating season of any state East of the Rocky Mountains; and

WHEREAS, Maine ski and snowboard centers contribute to healthy Maine people and a healthy economy and continue to invest in their communities, their residents and their resort facilities; and

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

LEARN A SNOW SPORT 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 twenty fourth day of November
Two Thousand and Nine.


John E. Baldacci
Governor




Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State
TRUE ATTESTED COPY