JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 16, 2018 AS DESTROYER ESCORT DAY

WHEREAS, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Cold War called upon thousands of America's youth to join in the fight by land, sea and air to restore freedom and peace throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, the Destroyer Escort was designed for use in World War II as an anti-submarine vessel to provide a lifeline for Allied forces by protecting convoys from the U-Boat menace in the Atlantic and was used extensively in surface-to-surface combat, shelling shores for invasions and many other assignments; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the lives lost in these endeavors, and in commendation of the bravery and valor of the sailors of the Destroyer Escorts, the Destroyer Escort Association will host a special ceremony in Lewiston to honor the sailors of the Destroyer Escorts of World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Cold War with special tribute paid to those who lost their lives with their ships; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize June 16, 2018 as Destroyer Escort Day throughout the State of Maine in commemoration of the valiant sailors who risked and often gave their lives for peace and freedom worldwide.

Comes from the House, READ and ADOPTED.
The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 1343

JOINT RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING YOM HASHOAH, THE DAY OF REMEMBRANCE, APRIL 12, 2018

WHEREAS, from 1933 to 1945, 6,000,000 Jews were murdered in the Holocaust as part of a state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation program of genocide, and millions of other people suffered as victims of Nazism, such as the handicapped, political dissidents and many others for racial, ethnic or national reasons; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Maine should always remember the atrocities committed by the Nazis so that such horrors are never repeated, and the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies and governments; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Maine should always remember those who liberated the Nazi concentration camps, some of whom lost their lives and others of whom have experienced lifelong emotional suffering, as holding an honored place in our history; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Maine should continually rededicate themselves to the principle of equal justice for all people, remain eternally vigilant against all tyranny and recognize that bigotry provides a breeding ground for tyranny to flourish; and

WHEREAS, the national community, pursuant to an Act of Congress, will be commemorating the week of April 8, 2018 to April 15, 2018 as the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust, including the Day of Remembrance, known as Yom HaShoah, April 12, 2018; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the people of the State of Maine to join in this international commemoration, marking 73 years since the end of World War II and the liberation of the Nazi concentration and death camps; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, pause in solemn memory of the victims of the Holocaust and in honor of the survivors, rescuers and liberators; that We urge one and all to recommit themselves to the lessons of the Holocaust through the international week of commemoration; and that We express our common desire to continually strive to overcome prejudice and inhumanity through education, vigilance and resistance; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine and the United States Holocaust Memorial Council in Washington, D.C. on behalf of the people of the State of Maine.

Comes from the House, READ and ADOPTED.
(1-3) The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 1345

JOINT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE MULTIFACETED AGRICULTURE OF MAINE

WHEREAS, recent statistics show that farming in Maine has grown, that Maine continues to lead the New England states with 8,174 farms and that the value of Maine's crops and livestock has grown 24% since the last census of agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Maine's agricultural enterprises provide more than $764,000,000 through the sale of farm products and contribute more than $2,000,000,000 annually to the State's economy, and Maine agricultural products are increasingly available locally in farmers' markets, schools and institutions; and

WHEREAS, Maine farmers are the stewards of 1,450,000 acres of land, a vital resource in maintaining Maine's rural economy; and

WHEREAS, Maine is first in the world in the production of wild blueberries, a world leader in the production of brown eggs, first in New England in the production of food, first in New England in the value of aquaculture sales, second in New England in milk and livestock production, third in the Nation in the production of maple syrup and eighth in the Nation in the production of fall potatoes, is the fastest-growing artisanal cheese-producing state in the Nation and is the only state involved in the commercial production of fiddleheads; and

WHEREAS, agriculture has always been a part of Maine's prosperity, maintaining much of Maine's scenic open space, providing recreational opportunities and contributing to the character of Maine's rural communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, pause in our deliberations to recognize Maine's agricultural community and its contribution to the betterment of our State, to pledge our support and encouragement and to urge the youth of Maine to pursue the growing opportunities for careers in today's technologically advanced agriculture industry; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a suitable copy of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, as a token of the esteem in which those in this vital field are held.

Comes from the House, READ and ADOPTED.