

**Press Release from the Maine Sea Coast Mission  
July 18, 2005 – For Immediate Release  
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**Maine Sea Coast Mission Recognized by Maine Legislature**

An official “Expression of Sentiment,” dated July 13, 2005, from the 122<sup>nd</sup> Legislature of the State of Maine, celebrating the Maine Sea Coast Mission in its “Century of Hope on a Sea of Change” and sending their best wishes for the next 100 years, was presented by Senator Dennis Damon to Executive Director, Gary A. Delong,

Senator Damon presented the proclamation at the beginning of the Maine Sea Coast Mission Story Telling Festival on the Mission lawn, Sunday evening, July 17. The festival featured Dennis Damon, Sherry Geyelin and Jackson Gillman, three of the foremost story tellers in the New England. Kate Wegner and Chuck Donnelly played lively fiddle and guitar music between the story telling performances. Earlier in the day, Jackson Gillman performed in a story telling matinee for younger children and their parents. True to their purpose, the Mission also sent Jackson Gillman on a story telling mission to four islands – Frenchboro, Swans, Isle au Haut and Matinicus on July 18 and 19.

The Expression of Sentiment from the Senate and the House of Representatives was sponsored by Senator Dennis Damon and cosponsored by Representative Ted Koffman. The Senate and the House of Representatives joined in recognizing the Maine Sea Coast Mission and celebrating its 100 years of service. The statement from the legislature recognized the many programs through which the Mission provides services to the people on the islands and coastal communities of Downeast Maine.