

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont shares a critical concern for victims of domestic and sexual violence and a desire to ensure that victims have the resources they need to heal; and

WHEREAS, in 2023 the member organizations of the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence received a total of 23,300 hotline and chatline calls and provided in-person assistance to 8,494 survivors of domestic and sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, economic instability is one of the primary barriers preventing victims of domestic and sexual violence from seeking safety; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that the financial impact of domestic and sexual violence is immense and the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence estimates that domestic and sexual violence cost the State of Vermont over \$100 million annually; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, the State of Vermont, and M&T Bank are jointly committed to addressing the financial needs of victims of domestic and sexual violence in our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim the 6th day of February, 2024, as

**FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC AND
SEXUAL VIOLENCE DAY**
in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 6th day of February, A.D. 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Philip B. Scott'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brittney J. Wilson'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Brittney J. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs