State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Federal Department of Health and Human Services began designating March as

Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month in 2016; and

WHEREAS, bleeding disorders, which are distinguished by the inability to form a proper blood

clot are characterized by extended bleeding after injury, surgery, trauma or menstruation and can lead to significant morbidity and can be fatal if not treated

effectively; and

WHEREAS, many individuals with hemophilia became infected with HIV or hepatitis C in the

1980s due to the contamination of the blood supply and blood products; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will generate greater awareness and

understanding of not only hemophilia but all inheritable bleeding disorders, including von Willebrand disease, which alone affects an estimated one percent of

the United States population, or more than 3.2 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will foster a greater sense of community and

shared purpose among all individuals with inheritable bleeding disorders; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will elevate awareness of an engagement in

the inheritable bleeding disorders journey for the general public, enabling the

prevention of illness, unnecessary procedures and disability.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim March 2024 as

BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Wermon on this 26th day of February, A.D. 2024.

Philip B. Scott

Governor

Brittney **W**ilson

Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs