

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, April 2024 marks the anniversary of the passage of the Federal Fair Housing Act, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, which represents a national policy of fair housing without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, and disability, and encourages fair housing opportunities for all; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont has been a leader in the country by enacting a law to extend protections of the Federal Fair Housing Act to include sexual orientation, age, marital status, gender identity, recipients of public assistance, and people who have experienced abuse, sexual assault, and stalking as protected classes; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont made historic investments in fair housing by providing first-generation homebuyers down payment assistance to build wealth through homeownership; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont took the further step to ensure fair housing by prohibiting discrimination against housing developments in land use and planning decisions based on the income of intended residents; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont provided funding to the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity to translate and interpret educational videos on fair housing and landlord-tenant laws and protections in nine languages spoken throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont supports fairness in all housing transactions and strives to be a welcoming place where opportunity is accessible to all and where the safety and security of a home is not obstructed by discrimination; and

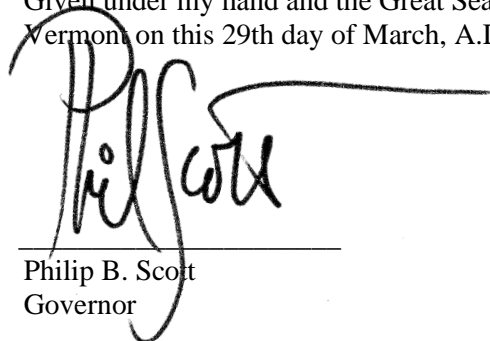
WHEREAS, the State of Vermont is committed to taking affirmative steps to ensure the right to housing choice free of illegal discrimination for all members of our communities; and

WHEREAS, only through the continued commitment to uphold the civil liberties of all residents of our state can barriers to fair housing be deconstructed and the promise of freedom and opportunity for all can be fully realized.

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


FAIR HOUSING MONTH
in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 29th day of March, A.D. 2024.



Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney J. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs