

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, U.S. Masters Swimming (USMS), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is headquartered in Sarasota, Florida; and

WHEREAS, USMS represents 60,000 USMS adult members who swim with its more than 1,500 local adult swim programs across the country; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control estimates that 37 percent of American adults could not save themselves if they fell in water over their heads. With the inability to swim affecting people's lives in a broad spectrum of ways with direct negative implications on American's quality of life; and

WHEREAS, adult drowning is a problem we can solve – teaching adults to swim is the central cause of the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation, the charitable arm of USMS; and

WHEREAS, the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation has provided grant resources to adult swimming programs in Vermont so they may teach potentially thousands of adults who might not otherwise have the opportunity to swim; and

WHEREAS, the grants to the adult swimming programs for the Adult Learn to Swim program is privately provided by the charitable and generous contributions of 60,000 USMS members and supporters; and

WHEREAS, April is ideal month for this designation as indoor pools have the greatest availability for such programs before the summer season; and

WHEREAS, nationally, April is being recognized as Adult Learn to Swim Month, and with the help of state governments throughout our great nation highlighting this lifesaving effort, the commendable goal of making water available for fun, fitness and health to our fellow non-swimming neighbors can be attained.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2016 as

ADULT LEARN TO SWIM MONTH

in Vermont

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of

Vermont on this day 9th of March, A.D. 2016



Peter Shumlin
Governor

