

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** this designation will formalize and expand upon the designation 31 years ago, of March, 1986 as “National Hemophilia Month” by President Ronald Reagan; and
- WHEREAS,** the Federal Department of Health and Human Services began designating March as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month in 2016; and
- WHEREAS,** these bleeding disorders, which share the inability to form a proper blood clot, are characterized by extending 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 Hepatitis C or HIV, before they were recognized as bloodborne pathogens, due to the contamination of blood products; and
- WHEREAS,** this Awareness Month in Vermont will generate greater awareness and understanding of not only hemophilia, but all inheritable bleeding disorders, including von Willebrand disease – which alone impacts an estimated 1 percent of the U.S. population, or more than 3.2 million individuals; and
- WHEREAS,** this Awareness Month will foster a greater sense of community and shared purpose among individuals with all inheritable bleeding disorders; and
- WHEREAS,** this Awareness Month will elevate awareness of and engagements in the inheritable bleeding disorders journey by the general public, enabling the prevention of illness, unnecessary procedure, and disability.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim the month of March, 2017 to be

BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3rd day of March, A.D. 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philip B. Scott', is written over a horizontal line.

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brittney L. Wilson', is written over a horizontal line.
Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs