

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, April marks the anniversary of the passage of the Federal 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 citizens; and

WHEREAS, 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, and recipients of public assistance as protected classes; and

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

WHEREAS, 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

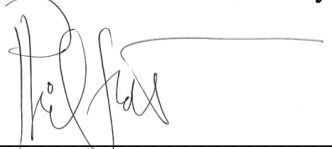
WHEREAS, only through the continued commitment to uphold the civil liberties of all residents of our state can barriers to fair housing be deconstructed and the promise of freedom and opportunity be fully realized.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2017 as

FAIR HOUSING MONTH


in Vermont.

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



Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs