

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) is the leading genetic killer of children under the age of two, and 1 in 40 Americans carry the gene that causes SMA; and

WHEREAS, SMA is a motor neuron disease that affects the voluntary muscles that are used for activities such as crawling, walking, head and neck control, and swallowing, and there are currently few treatment options and no cure for SMA, which is known to cause degeneration in voluntary muscle movement for those that survive with this disease; and

WHEREAS, SMA crosses all racial, ethnic, and religious boundaries, and can strike anyone of any age or gender; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness of SMA will lead to expanded knowledge and increased support for both disease and research and for families affected by the disease, hopefully leading to a cure; and

WHEREAS, patient groups have named August as National Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month in order to raise awareness and help promote research into this disease.

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

SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of July, A.D. 2017.

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

Philip B. Scott
Governor

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