

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, breastfeeding is recognized globally as a safe, sound, and sustainable practice benefiting mothers, children, and societies; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding protects mothers' and infants' health, and is a key health promotion and disease prevention strategy; and

WHEREAS, increasing evidence-based breastfeeding policies and practices in health care, communities, workplaces, and child care settings will change the landscape to be more supportive of breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, mothers who give birth at Baby-Friendly® hospitals which follow the *Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding* are more likely to initiate breastfeeding and to continue breastfeeding to six months and sustain breastfeeding to at least one year of age; and

WHEREAS, Vermont law supports breastfeeding in public and the workplace, and over 385 Vermont employers are recognized for creating family-friendly and breastfeeding-friendly worksites, supporting the health and wellness of their employees; and

WHEREAS, many opportunities exist in Vermont to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding mothers and infants.

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

BREASTFEEDING PROMOTION MONTH

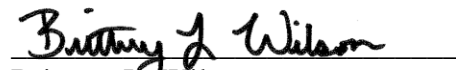
in Vermont.

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



Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs