

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** thousands of families across Vermont are affected by metastatic breast cancer, which occurs when cancer spreads beyond the breast to other parts of the body, including the bones, lungs, liver, and brain; and
- WHEREAS,** much of the talk around breast cancer focuses on early detection and routine diagnosis, where there has been tremendous progress in the last 30 years; and
- WHEREAS,** the story for advanced disease is quite different, and metastatic breast cancer patients continue to face many unique challenges, such as the emotional and physical demands of continual treatment; and
- WHEREAS,** currently no cure exists for metastatic breast cancer, and those with metastatic breast cancer will continue treatment indefinitely with the goal of extending the best quality of life possible; and
- WHEREAS,** more than one in eight women in the U.S. will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in their lifetimes, and in Vermont alone, it is expected that 580 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2017; and
- WHEREAS,** in the U.S., it is estimated that over 154,000 women have metastatic breast cancer; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2017, it is estimated that more than 70 women in Vermont will die of breast cancer, nearly all due to metastatic breast cancer; and
- WHEREAS,** metastatic breast cancer affects all races and socioeconomic classes, and although white women see the greatest incidence of breast cancer, the mortality rate for African-American women with breast cancer is higher than in white women, and breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death for Hispanic women; and
- WHEREAS,** any discussions of breast cancer should include the spectrum from screening through treatment and support of those with metastatic breast cancer; and
- WHEREAS,** the patient, family, health, and economic burdens of metastatic breast cancer are considerable; and
- WHEREAS,** metastatic breast cancer cuts short the lives of many people in Vermont, leaving a lasting effect on their families; and

WHEREAS, while there have been treatment advances in metastatic breast cancer, many of those advances have benefitted a small subset of patients with specific types of metastatic breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, while metastatic breast cancer remains incurable, extensive research efforts are underway to address this highly unmet need; and

WHEREAS, additional focus is needed on the personal and social burdens of metastatic breast cancer, the needs of a patient, and promising research efforts in the development of more effective treatments; and

WHEREAS, there is still more research to be done for metastatic breast cancer so that new and more effective treatments can be developed, and Vermont will continue to push for critical research and advanced treatments for metastatic breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, individuals diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer can speak with their physician to learn more about the disease, and find support groups and services in their community or online.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 13, 2017 as

METASTATIC BREAST CANCER AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 21st day of August, 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