State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS,

October 7 – 13 marks Plasma Awareness Week with observances throughout the United States designed to raise awareness of the importance of plasma donation and its effect on patients with rare diseases, recognize the contributions of plasma donors to saving and improving lives, and to increase understanding about lifesaving plasma protein therapies and the conditions they treat; and

WHEREAS,

plasma-derived and recombinant therapies, collectively known as plasma protein therapies, are unique biologic products which save and improve the lives of individuals throughout Vermont and the United States; and

WHEREAS,

plasma protein therapies are used to treat many conditions including hemophilia and other bleeding disorders, primary immune deficiencies, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, hereditary angioedema, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, and Rh-negative pregnancies; and

WHEREAS,

at any given time, an estimated 200 Vermonters are engaged in these therapies, and experience a substantial increase in quality of life, life expectancy, and overall improved patient outcomes; and

WHEREAS,

each year, approximately, an additional 900 pregnant women in Vermont receive plasma protein therapy to protect mother and baby from complications due to incompatible blood types.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 7 - 13, 2018 as

PLASMA AWARENESS WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3rd day of October, A.D. 2018

Philip B. Scott Governor

Jaye Pershing Johnson

Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs