

**State of Vermont  
Executive Department  
A Proclamation**

**WHEREAS,** Neuromyelitis Optica (NMO) is a rare and relatively unknown autoimmune disease that currently has no cure; and

**WHEREAS,** NMO attacks the central nervous system and can cause permanent disability, including blindness and paralysis; and

**WHEREAS,** the cause of NMO is still a mystery and there are currently no FDA-approved treatments for the disease; and

**WHEREAS,** when mistaken for other diseases, treatments can exacerbate NMO symptoms; and

**WHEREAS,** increased awareness of the disease has allowed doctors to become more likely to recognize the varying manifestations of the disease; and

**WHEREAS,** the NMO community is dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding about this disease in order to promote research, improved patient care and outcomes so that a cure may ultimately be found.

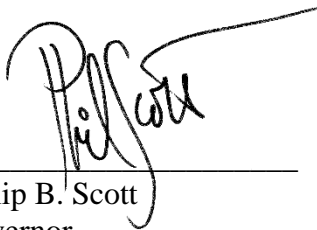
**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim March 2019 as

**NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA AWARENESS MONTH**

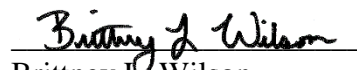
in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 4th day January, A.D. 2019.



Philip B. Scott  
Governor

  
Brittney L. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs