

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** a congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH) is a birth defect that occurs during fetal development causing a hole in an infant's diaphragm, allowing organs to migrate through the hole and crowding the abdomen, and ultimately may cause the infant's lungs to be small and underdeveloped; and
- WHEREAS,** since the year 2000 an estimated 700,000 babies worldwide have been born with CDH; and
- WHEREAS,** 1,600 newborns are affected by CDH in the United States every year with only about half surviving past infancy; and
- WHEREAS,** CDH is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis but is not as well-known; and
- WHEREAS,** there are many people living in Vermont who have been diagnosed with and have survived their CDH, although many families in Vermont have endured the loss of loved ones with CDH; and
- WHEREAS,** those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complications, which can include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and
- WHEREAS,** raising awareness of this congenital defect will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering with CDH and their families, and will lead to urgently needed research and medical advances.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim April 2019 as

CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of March, A.D. 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip B. Scott", is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the name "Philip B. Scott" and the title "Governor" are printed.

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brittney L. Wilson", is written above the printed name and title.
Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs