

**State of Vermont**  
**Executive Department**  
**A Proclamation**

**WHEREAS,** Abenaki Recognition and Heritage Week provides an opportunity to celebrate the many contributions of the Abenaki to present-day Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Quebec and New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Vermont acknowledges and condemns the legal, humanitarian, and social harms imposed upon indigenous communities in the United States, specifically upon the Abenaki community in the land now known as Vermont; and

**WHEREAS,** after decades of advocacy, the Abenaki communities successfully gained recognition as Native American Indian tribes in 2010, with the signing of Act No. 107 of 2010, *An Act Relating to State Recognition of Native American Indian tribes in Vermont*; and

**WHEREAS,** today, the rich legacy of the Abenaki is celebrated through arts and cultural offerings, as well as through state and local policy that aims to address the needs and challenges of the Abenaki community in Vermont; and

**WHEREAS,** there are now four State-recognized Native American Indian tribes in Vermont: the Elnu Abenaki tribe; the Nulhegan band of the Coosuk Abenaki Nation; the Koasek Abenaki of the Koas; and the Missisquoi, St. Francis-Sokoki band; and

**WHEREAS,** through mutual honor and respect for the rich heritage of the state's indigenous people, this week we honor the centuries-old culture and traditions of Vermont's Abenaki communities.

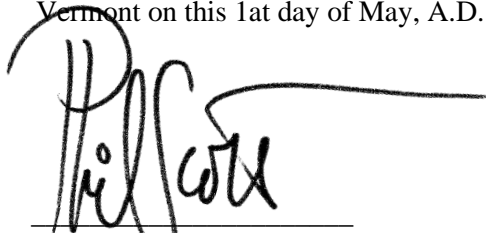
**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim May 1-5, 2020 as

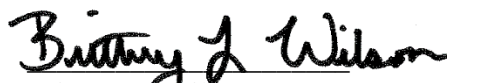
**ABENAKI RECOGNITION AND HERITAGE WEEK**

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of May, A.D. 2020.

  
Philip B. Scott  
Governor

  
Brittney L. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs