

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, families, serving as the primary sources of love, identity, self-esteem and support, are the very foundations of our communities and our state; and

WHEREAS, in Vermont, there are over 1,100 children and youth residing in foster, kinship or specialized foster homes where their safety and wellbeing needs are being met until their families are able to safely resume parenting responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals, as well as public and private organizations, who work to increase public awareness of children's needs who are currently in or leaving foster care; and

WHEREAS, in these extraordinary times, we recognize the outstanding service and commitment foster and kinship families provide to Vermont children and youth, while recognizing that foster care is a support to families, not a substitute for parents; and

WHEREAS, we honor the enduring contributions of foster, kinship and adoptive parents, and all who make the foster care system the supportive network it is.

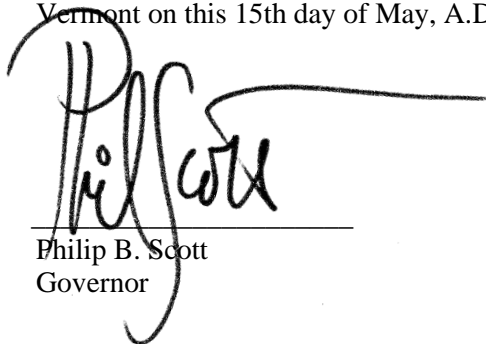
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim May 2020 as

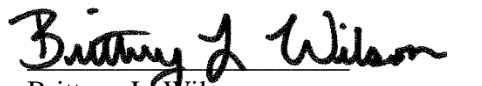
FOSTER CARE MONTH

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 15th day of May, A.D. 2020.


Philip B. Scott
Governor


Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs