State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS, bleeding disorders, which are distinguished by the inability to form

a proper blood clot, are characterized by extended bleeding after injury, surgery, trauma or menstruation and can lead to significant

morbidity and can be fatal if not treated effectively; and

WHEREAS, many individuals with hemophilia became infected with HIV and

hepatitis C in the 1980s due to the contamination of the blood supply

and blood products; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will generate greater

> awareness and understanding of not only hemophilia but all inheritable bleeding disorders, including von Willebrand disease, which alone affects an estimated one percent of the U.S. population,

or more than 3.2 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will foster a greater sense of

community and shared purpose among all individuals with

inheritable bleeding disorders; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will elevate awareness of and

> engagement in the inheritable bleeding disorders journey for the general public, enabling the prevention of illness, unnecessary

procedures and disability.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim March 2021 as

BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of

Vermont on this 1st day of March, A.D. 2021.

Governor

Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs