

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

- WHEREAS,** March 25, 2021 is celebrated by Greeks around the world as the 200th year anniversary of the Greek War of Independence; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 17, 1821 the Maniots, under the leadership of Petrobey Mavromichalis, declared war against the Ottoman Empire in Areopoli. Raising an army of thousands, they marched on the city of Kalamata and seized it from the Ottomans on March 23, 1821; and
- WHEREAS,** according to tradition, on March 25, 1821, the feast of the Annunciation for Eastern Orthodox Christians, Metropolitan Germanos III of Patras blessed the flag of the Greek revolution at the Monastery of Agia Lavra; and this date has become the traditional start date of the Greek War of Independence after four centuries of Ottoman rule; and
- WHEREAS,** the Greek War of Independence was seen internationally as a momentous occasion where the Greek people once again were standing up to reclaim the mantle of freedom and liberty from the yoke of slavery under the Ottoman Empire; and
- WHEREAS,** Jonathan Peckham Miller, a native of Randolph, Vermont, volunteered to fight for Greece against the Ottoman Empire in 1824. He served heroically for the Greek nation, attaining the rank of Colonel in the Greek army and the nickname "the American daredevil." Upon returning to his native Vermont, Jonathan Peckham Miller was an outspoken abolitionist and served honorably in the Vermont General Assembly; and
- WHEREAS,** the people of Greece, inspired by their legacy of liberty and democracy, have heroically struggled for centuries against the barbarism of imperialism, colonialism, monarchism, and fascism; and
- WHEREAS,** the people of Greece under the leadership of the National Liberation Front (EAM) and the Greek People's Liberation Army (ELAS) heroically struggled against Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy with the allies, the Soviet Union, the United States, and the United Kingdom, successfully defeating and ousting the Nazi's from Greece in October 1944; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermonters recognize that Greece, where democracy was born, has been an inspiration to humanity and has contributed to it through its achievements in countless fields of study including philosophy, mathematics, politics, history, art, and architecture; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont was and continues to be home to many Greeks who immigrated to this state over the centuries and whose devotion to community, family, and labor have contributed immensely to the overall culture and traditions of our state.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim March 25, 2021 as

**GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY**

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 24th day of March, A.D. 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philip B. Scott', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Philip B. Scott  
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brittny L. Wilson', written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive.

Brittny L. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs