

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

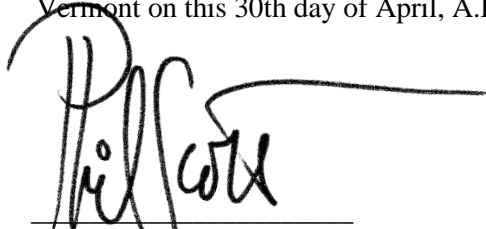
- WHEREAS,** cystic fibrosis, commonly referred to as "CF", is a genetic disease affecting more than 30,000 children and adults in the United States and over 70,000 worldwide; and
- WHEREAS,** a defective gene causes the body to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs, and these secretions produce life-threatening lung infections and obstruct the pancreas, preventing digestive enzymes from reaching the intestines to help break down and absorb food; and
- WHEREAS,** more than 10 million Americans are symptomless carriers of the defective CF gene; and
- WHEREAS,** the median predicted age of survival for a person with CF, born in 2019, is 48.4 years; and
- WHEREAS,** with advances in the treatment of CF, the number of adults with CF has steadily grown, and approximately 1,000 new cases of CF are diagnosed each year; and
- WHEREAS,** over 50% of the CF population is 18 years of age and older, and people with CF have a variety of symptoms attributed to the more than 2,000 mutations of the CF gene; and
- WHEREAS,** infant blood screening to detect genetic defects is the most reliable and least costly method to identify persons likely to have CF; and
- WHEREAS,** early diagnosis of CF permits early treatment and enhances quality of life and longevity and the treatment of CF depends on the stage of the disease and the organs involved; and
- WHEREAS,** clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part of the daily CF treatment regimen, and other types of treatments include inhaled antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes, exercise, among others; and
- WHEREAS,** a critical component of treating patients with CF includes access to innovative treatments and exercise, which can play a crucial role in the lives of patients with CF; and
- WHEREAS,** improving the length and quality of life for people with CF starts with awareness.

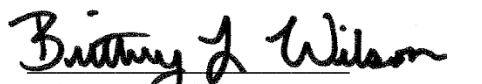
**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim May 2021 as

**CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH**  
in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of April, A.D. 2021.

  
Philip B. Scott  
Governor

  
Brittney L. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs