State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Necrotizing Fasciitis was first described within medical literature in

> 1883 by Fournier and was originally described as a disease of unknown cause that caused Fournier's Gangrene or cell death of the

scrotum: and

WHEREAS, it is an uncommon clinical disease of the layers of tissue under the

skin that attracts a high profile within the popular media where it is

often referred to as the "flesh eating bug or virus;" and

WHEREAS, the most common causes of the disease are the bacteria group A

> hemolytic, Streptococcus pyogenes and Staphylococcus aureus, either alone or in combination; other cases are reported to be caused by other types of bacteria including those naturally found within the

intestines of normal healthy individuals; and

WHEREAS, Necrotizing Fasciitis can occur in any age group, although

> sometimes there are precipitating factors; it is most commonly associated with surgical procedures, but may be seen in those with diabetes mellitus, atherosclerotic vascular disease, malignancy and

hypertension; and

WHEREAS, in rare occasions it may occur following minor injuries to the skin,

falls, cuts or tears but sometimes is not apparent and can occur in

apparently healthy individuals; and

while progress has been made to understand the symptoms and WHEREAS,

better diagnosing the disease, there is still much to learn about

Necrotizing Fasciitis.

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

NECROTIZING FASCIITIS AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

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

Vermont on this 6th day of May, A.D. 2021.

Governor

Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs