

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, all children need the care, love, security, and stability of family to provide a solid foundation for personal development, growth, and well-being; family includes parents, siblings, grandparents and other extended family members; and

WHEREAS, reunification with family is the preferred outcome for children and youth placed in out-of-home care, including foster care, kinship care, and residential care; and

WHEREAS, reunification with family is the most common outcome for children in out-of-home care; each year, hundreds of thousands of children are successfully reunified with their families nationally; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 in Vermont, 613 children and youth exited out-of-home care; 279 were reunified with their parents and 46 were provided permanency by a relative; thus, 53% exited to permanency with their parents or other family members; and

WHEREAS, safe reunification is possible when parents, extended family members, DCF Family Services workers, foster parents, service providers, lawyers, judges, and others work together; and

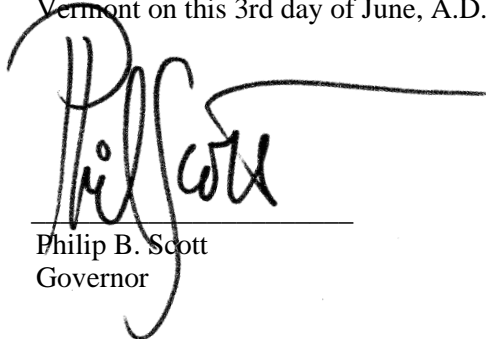
WHEREAS, June is celebrated as National Reunification Month to recognize and honor the parents who have done the hard work necessary to safely reunite with their children and the people, programs, services and supports that helped them.

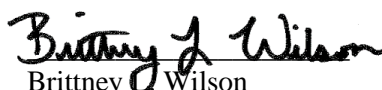
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim June 2021 as

**FAMILY REUNIFICATION MONTH
in Vermont.**

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3rd day of June, A.D. 2021.




Philip B. Scott
Governor


Brittny J. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs