

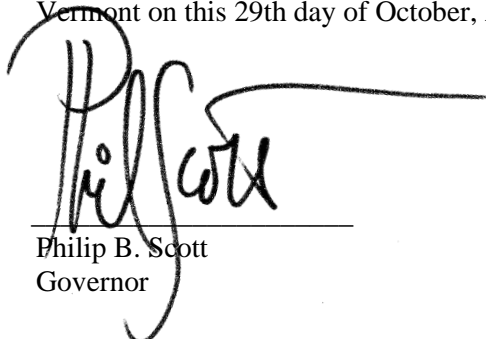
State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation


- WHEREAS,** the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports approximately half a million *C. difficile* infections occur per year that require hospital treatment or affect those already hospitalized; and
- WHEREAS,** approximately 29,000 patients die within 30 days of the initial diagnosis of *C. difficile* of which about 15,000 deaths were estimated to be directly attributable to *C. difficile* infection; and
- WHEREAS,** studies indicate *C. difficile* has become the most common microbial cause of health care associated infections in United States hospitals and costs up to \$4.8 billion each year in excess health care costs for acute care facilities alone; and
- WHEREAS,** one out of every five patients with a health care associated *C. difficile* infection experience a recurrence of the infection and one out of every nine patients aged 65 or older with a health care associated *C. difficile* infection died within 30 days of diagnosis; and
- WHEREAS,** health care facilities employ dedicated professionals who advocate for improving health and promoting patient and staff safety in order to minimize and prevent *C. difficile*; and
- WHEREAS,** improved health practices, such as thorough hand hygiene, and environmental cleaning can significantly reduce the risk and spread of *C. difficile* infections; and
- WHEREAS,** ensuring the education of health care workers on proper infection prevention techniques is proven to reduce all types of health care associated infections; and
- WHEREAS,** the health and safety of all Vermonters is important to the happiness, prosperity, and well-being of our families and communities.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim November 2021 as

C. DIFFICILE (CLOSTRIDIODES DIFFICILE)
AWARENESS MONTH
in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 29th day of October, A.D. 2021.




Philip B. Scott
Governor


Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs