

**State of Vermont  
Executive Department  
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** one in every 2,500 pregnancies are diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH); and
- WHEREAS,** CDH occurs when a baby's diaphragm fails to fully form, allowing abdominal organs into the chest cavity and preventing lung growth; and
- WHEREAS,** since 2000, it is estimated that over 700,000 babies globally have been born with CDH, however, only 50 percent of those babies survived; and
- WHEREAS,** CDH is as common as Spina Bifida and Cystic Fibrosis, however, very few people know about it or are aware of it; and
- WHEREAS,** 1,600 babies are born with CDH in the United States each year; and
- WHEREAS,** there are many people living in Vermont who have been diagnosed with and have survived their CDH, many families in Vermont have endured the horrible pain and grief associated with the loss of loved ones with CDH; and
- WHEREAS,** CDH International is a 501(c)III organization created to help families affected by CDH; and
- WHEREAS,** those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complications beyond their diagnosis that include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and
- WHEREAS,** raising awareness of this congenital defect will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering with CDH and will help advocate for urgently needed medical research and advances.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim April 2022 as

**CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA  
AWARENESS MONTH**

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 31st day of March, A.D. 2022.



Philip B. Scott  
Governor

*Brittney L. Wilson*  
Brittney L. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs