

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Vermont's children and youth are our hope for the future, and we assert that all children deserve a safe, loving, accepting, stable, and nurturing home; and

WHEREAS, families, serving as the primary support for identity development, connections, and self-esteem, are the very foundation of our communities and our state; and

WHEREAS, foster care is a support to families and relationships with foster care providers help children and youth develop their identity, live within, or stay connected to their cultural roots and community; and

WHEREAS, in Vermont, there are over 1,000 children and youth in custody, supported by a network of 1,500 dedicated foster, kinship and respite providers, where their needs for safety and belonging are ensured until their families are able to safely resume parenting responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, many foster families create permanency for children and youth through adoption, when those children and youth cannot safely return to live with their birth families; and

WHEREAS, foster care providers along with public and private community partners support the transition of youth and young adults to successful independence; and

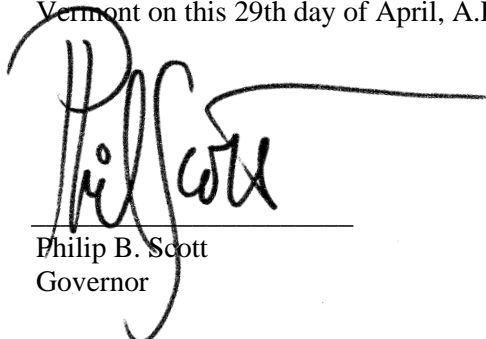
WHEREAS, in these unprecedented times, we honor the enduring contributions of foster, kinship, respite and adoptive parents and we recognize the outstanding service and commitment these families provide to Vermont children, youth and their families.

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

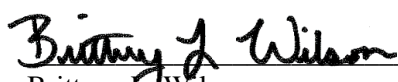
FOSTER CARE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 29th day of April, A.D. 2022.


Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs