

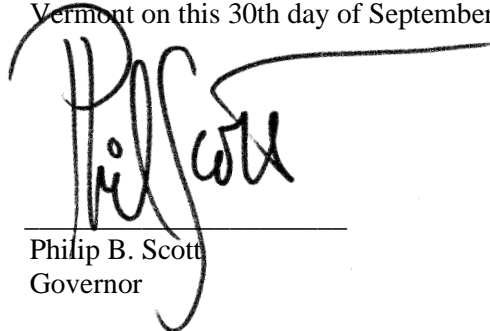
**State of Vermont**  
**Executive Department**  
**A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** the first national "Co-op Month" was celebrated in 1964 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and has since been celebrated every October in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** cooperatives are businesses that are locally owned by everyday people who join together to solve a problem, meet a need or achieve shared goals; and
- WHEREAS,** cooperative enterprises – including food co-ops, worker co-ops, credit unions, farmer co-ops, artisan co-ops, utilities co-ops, and housing co-ops – are owned and democratically controlled by their member-owners and give people who belong to cooperatives a real stake in their communities and their economic futures; and
- WHEREAS,** cooperatives are recognized in the statutes of Vermont, including Title 11, Chapter 7: Cooperatives, Chapter 8: Worker Cooperative Corporations, and Chapter 14: Cooperative Housing Ownership Act, providing the basic framework for the formation and operation of cooperatives as member-owned and governed enterprises, operating on a not-for-profit basis for the benefit of their membership; and
- WHEREAS,** today, an estimated 35,000 member-owners in Vermont depend on approximately 130 cooperatives to meet a wide variety of needs, goals, and aspirations; and
- WHEREAS,** cooperatives play a major role in the economy of the state of Vermont, annually recording an estimated \$1 billion in revenue; and
- WHEREAS,** the cooperative philosophy of working together for the common good has promoted community well-being and improved the quality of life for Vermonters.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim October 2022 as


**CO-OP MONTH**

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of September, A.D. 2022.

  
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Philip B. Scott  
Governor



  
Brittney J. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs