

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, access to childhood healthcare is vital to the well-being of all children, but 20.3 million children in the United States face barriers to accessing healthcare; and

WHEREAS, those barriers to healthcare may take the form of financial or non-financial hardships, 11.5 million American children’s families report difficulty in paying medical bills; and

WHEREAS, non-financial barriers to childhood healthcare include lack of car or poor public transportation, living within a federally designated Health Professional Shortage Area, or informational barriers such as parental literacy; and

WHEREAS, 14 million American children live in Health Professional Shortage Areas; and

WHEREAS, only 46.7% of Vermont children received routine developmental screening by a healthcare provider between the ages of 0-3 and Vermont is ranked fourth in the nation overall; and

WHEREAS, 1.9% of Vermont children, or 2,222 individuals, do not have health insurance and Vermont is ranked second nationally; and

WHEREAS, insurance coverage alone does not guarantee access to healthcare, and the Winooski School District runs a school-based health clinic for students in coordination with the UVM Children’s Hospital and Community Health Center of Burlington; and

WHEREAS, children with the opportunity to see healthcare providers without leaving school will be more likely to receive the care they need; and

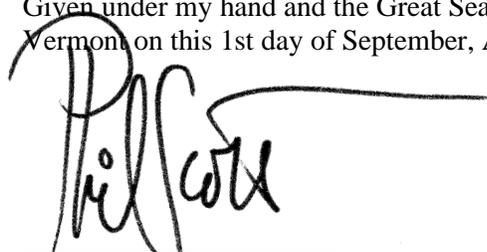
WHEREAS, access to routine childhood healthcare affects not just children, but also their parents’ daily schedules; and

WHEREAS, Vermont Childhood Healthcare Accessibility Month will encourage awareness of school-based healthcare programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim September 2023 as

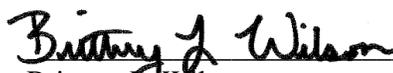
**CHILDHOOD HEALTHCARE ACCESSIBILITY MONTH
in Vermont.**

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of September, A.D. 2023.



Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney J. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs