

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** the Children’s Craniofacial Association (CCA) began celebrating Craniofacial Acceptance Month in 2005 to bring awareness to the thousands of children born each year in the United States who are either born with or develop a craniofacial difference, which is a structural or physical anomaly of the head and/or face; and
- WHEREAS,** the most well-known syndrome being Cleft Lip which is seen in over 185,000 births a year worldwide (NIDCR.) While many more children are born with dozens of additional facial differences including Apert syndrome, Treacher Collins syndrome, facial palsy, and Craniosynostosis which is seen in over 1,500 births a year in the United States alone (CDC); and
- WHEREAS,** individuals with craniofacial differences and their families often struggle to understand the diagnosis they are facing and how to move forward in their early stages of life; and
- WHEREAS,** families are often under emotional and financial strain due to demands resulting from ongoing and expensive medical treatment; and
- WHEREAS,** due to the complexity of craniofacial syndromes, the majority of affected individuals will often endure multiple surgeries before they reach adulthood; and
- WHEREAS,** there is a lack of education and information disseminated to the general public about individuals with facial differences; and
- WHEREAS,** organizations such as Children’s Craniofacial Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, serves populations affected by craniofacial differences and the professions who care for them; and
- WHEREAS,** we must strive to empower and give hope to individuals and families affected by these facial differences, while working towards the vision of a world where all people are accepted for who they are, not how they look; and
- WHEREAS,** Children’s Craniofacial Association has designated September of 2024 as the 20th year anniversary of “Craniofacial Acceptance Month.”

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim the Month of September, 2024, as

CRANIOFACIAL ACCEPTANCE MONTH
in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 22nd day of August, A.D. 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip B. Scott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brittney Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Brittney Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs