

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

**WHEREAS,** Blue Star Families seeks to empower military families by connecting them with their neighbors — individuals and organizations — to create vibrant communities of mutual support; and

**WHEREAS,** Blue Star Families annually designates the week beginning the second to last Saturday in September and concluding eight days thereafter as “Blue Star Welcome Week”; and

**WHEREAS,** during this week, we recognize the 600,000 active-duty and transitioning military families who move to new communities each year; and

**WHEREAS,** nearly half of these permanent change of station (PCS) moves occur during the summer; and

**WHEREAS,** only 41% of military family respondents to the 2023 Military Family Lifestyle Survey reported that they feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community; and

**WHEREAS,** a sense of belonging is essential to the well-being and readiness of military families; and

**WHEREAS,** we commit to ensuring that military and Veteran families feel a strong sense of belonging to their local civilian communities; and

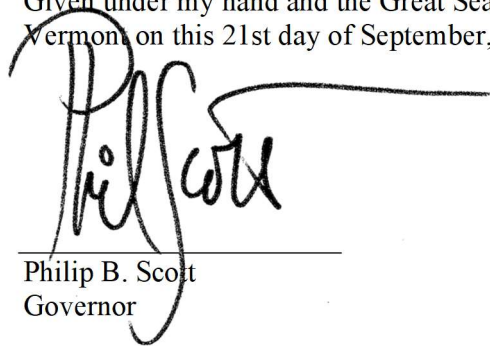
**WHEREAS,** we express gratitude for the sacrifices made by service members, transitioning Veterans, and their families; and

**WHEREAS,** we encourage civilians nationwide to welcome military and Veteran families into their communities.

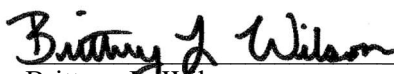
**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim September 21 - 28, 2024 as

**BLUE STAR WELCOME WEEK**  
in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 21st day of September, A.D. 2024.

  
Philip B. Scott  
Governor



  
Brittney J. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs