

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

- WHEREAS,** Proclamation 21-061, A Proclamation of Inclusion, signed on May 7, 2021, established the second week in May as Inclusion Week, condemning discrimination in all forms; and
- WHEREAS,** the state of Vermont proclaimed Inclusion Week, a week designated to Vermont's efforts to be a leader in protecting hard-fought civil rights and eliminate hatred and bigotry; and
- WHEREAS,** towns across the state of Vermont do not abide prejudice and protects all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, age, or disability to the full extent of the law; and
- WHEREAS,** the LGBTQ+ community has courageously fought for their right to exist after being subjected to undue fear, discrimination and violence because of their sexual orientation; and
- WHEREAS,** Bellows Falls Pride celebrates the resilience of the LGBTQ+ community and advances the commitment of acceptance and equality for all; and
- WHEREAS,** the "Sacred Cloth", also known as Section 93 of the historic Key West Sea-to-Sea Rainbow Flag as originated by Gilbert Baker, LGBTQ+ creator of the Rainbow Flag, recognizes the historic importance of equality and justice for the global LGBTQ+ community; and
- WHEREAS,** the Town of Rockingham has a proud history of LGBTQ+ equality given the history of the Andrews Inn which provided a safe place for members of the LGBTQ+ community; and
- WHEREAS,** the significant impact of the Andrews Inn has been designated as an LGBTQ+ historic site by the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and the National Park Service; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont was the first State to introduce civil unions on July 1, 2000, and the first to introduce same-sex marriage by enacting a statute on September 1, 2009, without being required to do so by a court decision.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim the 11th day of October, 2024, as

**COMING OUT DAY**  
in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3rd day of October, A.D. 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip B. Scott".

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Philip B. Scott  
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brittney J. Wilson".

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Brittney J. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs