

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

- WHEREAS,** multiple myeloma (or myeloma) is a cancer of plasma cells in the bone marrow and is called “multiple” because it can occur at various sites in the body; and
- WHEREAS,** multiple myeloma causes a variety of adverse health effects, including a weakened immune system, anemia, kidney damage, and bone deterioration; and
- WHEREAS,** multiple myeloma is the second most common blood cancer worldwide; and
- WHEREAS,** multiple myeloma currently affects more than 100,000 people in the United States, with about 30,330 new cases diagnosed and 12,650 deaths from the disease in 2016 according to the National Cancer Institute’s Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program; and
- WHEREAS,** once predominantly found among those 65 and over, where it continues to be most frequently diagnosed, multiple myeloma is increasingly being identified in younger individuals including those in their 30s, 40s, and 50s; and
- WHEREAS,** multiple myeloma is almost twice as likely to occur among African-Americans and is one of the leading causes of cancer deaths among African-Americans, with scientific understanding of the disparity remaining unknown; and
- WHEREAS,** the cause of multiple myeloma is not known, with robust research being performed in the United States and internationally into potential genetic, environmental, and other risk factors; and
- WHEREAS,** additional new drugs and therapies are in the research phase, with patient enrollment in clinical trials playing an important role in determining safe and effective treatments; and
- WHEREAS,** understanding and treatment of multiple myeloma has been greatly furthered by the role of advocacy initiatives promoting awareness, education, research, peer review, and collaboration and such efforts are to be highly commended; and
- WHEREAS,** greater awareness of multiple myeloma on the part of clinicians and the general public can lead to earlier detection and treatment, improving health outcomes and bringing comfort to patients and families.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim March, 2017 as

**MULTIPLE MYELOMA AWARENESS MONTH**

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3rd day of March, A.D. 2017.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip B. Scott", written over a horizontal line.

Philip B. Scott  
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brittney L. Wilson", written over a horizontal line.

Brittney L. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs