WHEREAS, families, serving as the primary sources of love, identity, self-esteem and support, are the very foundations of our communities and our state; and

WHEREAS, in Vermont, there are over 1,340 children and youth in traditional, kinship or specialized foster care who are being provided safe, secure and stable homes, along with the compassion and nurturing of foster and kinship foster families; and

WHEREAS, there are over 1,300 dedicated licensed foster and kinship foster families in Vermont who often adopt foster children; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals, as well as public and private organizations, who work to increase public awareness of the needs of children who are currently in or leaving foster care; and

WHEREAS, we honor the enduring and valuable contributions of foster, kinship foster and adoptive parents, and so many others who make the foster care system the supportive network it is.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2018 as FOSTER CARE MONTH in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 12th day of April, A.D. 2018

Philip B. Scott
Governor

Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs