WHEREAS, Vermont is committed to equal educational opportunities by identifying obstacles to educational advancement and success and endeavoring to remove those obstacles; and

WHEREAS, literacy and numeracy are critical skills needed for educational success and research shows students who read on grade level by third grade vastly outperform their peers who did not throughout their educational careers; and

WHEREAS, research conducted by the National Institute of Health indicated up to one in five individuals may struggle with Dyslexia and related learning disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurological in origin characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities; and

WHEREAS, secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge; and

WHEREAS, teachers and students across Vermont would benefit from increased educator professional training about Dyslexia and the scientifically evident based teaching strategies designed to better educate students with Dyslexia; and

WHEREAS, parents and educators of students who struggle to overcome Dyslexia across Vermont and the nation have come together to advocate for reforms to support their children and Vermont is dedicated to improving special education outcomes for all students, including those with Dyslexia.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim October 2019 as DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of October, A.D. 2019.

[Signature]

Philip B. Scott
Governor

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Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs