

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

- WHEREAS,** Vermont recognizes it has a vital role in identifying, protecting Vermonters from and responding to cybersecurity threats that may have significant impact to our individual and collective safety and privacy; and
- WHEREAS,** critical infrastructure is increasingly reliant on information systems and technology to support financial services, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care and emergency response systems; and
- WHEREAS,** cybersecurity education and awareness are crucial for everyone, including large corporations, small businesses, financial institutions, schools, government agencies, the home user and anyone who connects to the internet; and
- WHEREAS,** monitoring your accounts, being conscientious of what you share online, keeping computer software up to date, creating unique passwords and changing them regularly, installing anti-virus programs and firewalls and using mobile devices safely are ways you can protect yourself from phishing, viruses, malware, financial loss and loss of sensitive data; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont is dedicated to providing every individual and public and private organization in Vermont the resources necessary to ensure the understanding, implementation and success of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month to help Vermonters stay safe online and connect with confidence; and
- WHEREAS,** the STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ Campaign serves as the national cybersecurity public awareness campaign, implemented through a coalition of private companies, nonprofit, government organizations and academic institutions working together to increase the public's understanding of cyber threats and empowering Americans to be safer and more secure online; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Workforce Framework is a free resource to help organizations (both large and small, public and private) improve their cybersecurity practices through a practical approach to addressing the ever-evolving cybersecurity threats and challenges; and
- WHEREAS,** maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which each of us has a critical role to play, and awareness of computer security essentials will improve the security of Vermont's information, infrastructure and economy; and
- WHEREAS,** the Vermont Agency of Digital Services was established in January 2017 to enhance and protect the State of Vermont's cybersecurity ecosystem; and

**WHEREAS,**

the Federal Government of the United States of America, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency ([www.cisa.gov](http://www.cisa.gov)), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (<https://www.cisecurity.org/ms-isac>), the National Association of State Chief Information Officers ([www.nascio.org](http://www.nascio.org)) and the National Cyber Security Alliance ([www.staysafeonline.org](http://www.staysafeonline.org)) all recognize October as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month; and all Vermonters are encouraged to visit these websites, along with [digitalservices.vermont.gov](http://digitalservices.vermont.gov) and the STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ Campaign website ([www.cisa.gov/stophinkconnect](http://www.cisa.gov/stophinkconnect) or [www.stophinkconnect.org](http://www.stophinkconnect.org)) to learn about cybersecurity to put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces and businesses.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim October 2021 as

**CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH**  
in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of September, A.D. 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip B. Scott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

Philip B. Scott  
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brittney L. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Brittney L. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs