

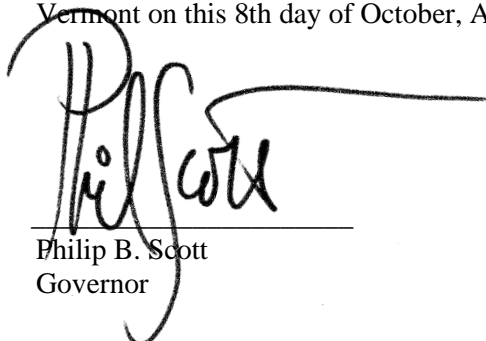
**State of Vermont**  
**Executive Department**  
**A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** the first national "Co-op Month" was celebrated in 1964 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and has since been celebrated every October in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** cooperatives are businesses that are locally owned by everyday people who join together to solve a problem, meet a need or achieve shared goals; and
- WHEREAS,** cooperative enterprises – including food co-ops, worker co-ops, credit unions, farmer co-ops, artisan co-ops, utilities co-ops, and housing co-ops – are owned and democratically controlled by their member-owners and give people who belong to cooperatives a real stake in their communities and their economic futures; and
- WHEREAS,** cooperatives are recognized in the statutes of Vermont, including Title 11, Chapter 7: Cooperatives, Chapter 9: Worker Cooperative Corporations, and Chapter 14: Cooperative Housing Ownership Act, providing the basic framework for the formation and operation of cooperatives as member-owned and governed enterprises, operating on a not-for-profit basis for the benefit of their membership; and
- WHEREAS,** today, an estimated 35,000 member-owners in Vermont depend on approximately 130 cooperatives to meet a wide variety of needs, goals, and aspirations; and
- WHEREAS,** cooperatives play a major role in the economy of the state of Vermont, annually recording an estimated \$1 billion in revenue; and
- WHEREAS,** the cooperative philosophy of working together for the common good has promoted community well-being and improved the quality of life for Vermonters.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim October 2021 as

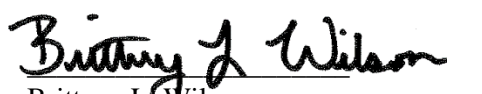
**CO-OP MONTH**

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 8th day of October, A.D. 2021.

  
Philip B. Scott  
Governor



  
Brittney L. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs