

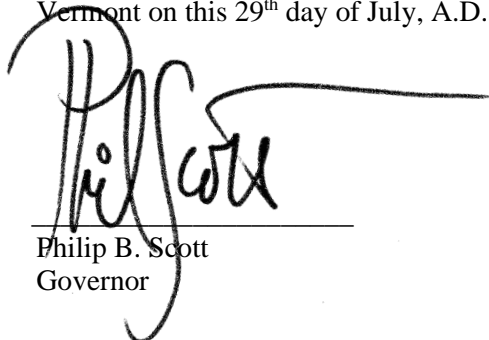
**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** breastfeeding is recognized globally as a safe and sustainable practice benefiting parents, children, and societies; and
- WHEREAS,** breastfeeding is a foundation of life, providing nutrition and food security, reducing poverty and inequities, and giving every child the best start in life; and
- WHEREAS,** breastfeeding can be lifesaving during natural disasters and public health emergencies; and
- WHEREAS,** breastfeeding protects breastfeeding parents' and infants' health and is a key health promotion and disease prevention strategy; and
- WHEREAS,** parents who give birth at Baby-Friendly® hospitals which follow the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding are more likely to initiate breastfeeding, continue to feed exclusively to six months, and sustain breastfeeding for longer durations; and
- WHEREAS,** parental leave for postpartum parents and their partners promotes gender equality in the home, fosters establishment of exclusive breastfeeding, supports strong bonds and healthy outcomes for children; and
- WHEREAS,** increasing evidence-based breastfeeding policies and practices in health care, communities, workplaces, and early care and education settings will change the landscape to be more supportive of exclusive breastfeeding; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont law supports breastfeeding in public and the workplace, and many Vermont employers are recognized for creating family-friendly and breastfeeding-friendly worksites, supporting the health and wellness of their employees and their partners and families.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim August 2022 as

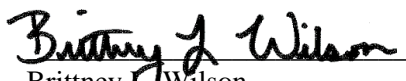
BREASTFEEDING PROMOTION MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 29th day of July, A.D. 2022.


Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney J. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs