State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Vermont renews our commitment to ensure bright futures for the more than 1,000

children and youth in foster care in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, each child has a journey, and we honor dedicated foster parents, kinship families,

volunteers, mentors, policy makers, child welfare professionals and other members of the community who make a meaningful difference in their lives; and

WHEREAS. we recognize maintaining relationships with relatives and kin can increase

stability, reduce trauma, and help children maintain a sense of family, belonging,

and identity; and

WHEREAS, providing children and youth with a stable, nurturing placement can have a

positive impact on children and youth's resilience and long-term well-being; and

WHEREAS, to ensure supports are effective, foster care placement requires a holistic approach

> that focuses broadly on their well-being within the contexts of home, family, school, work, and community while considering culture, race, ethnicity, sexual

orientation, gender, and disability of the recipient; and

WHEREAS, we honor our network of 1,500 dedicated foster, kinship and respite providers,

where their needs for safety and belonging are ensured until their families are

able to safely resume parenting responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, many foster families create permanency for children and youth through adoption,

when those children and youth cannot safely return to live with their birth

families; and

foster care providers along with public and private community partners support WHEREAS,

the transition of youth and young adults to successful independence; and

WHEREAS. this month, we pause to show our appreciation of all those involved with foster

care in recognizing their commitment to ensuring safety, stability, connections

and well-being of Vermont's children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim May 2023 as

FOSTER CARE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of

fermont on this 28th day of April, A.D. 2023.

Philip B. Scott

Governor

Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs