

**State of Vermont  
Executive Department  
A Proclamation**

**WHEREAS,** Vermont recognizes the importance of giving children permanent, safe, and loving families through adoption, the complexity of being an adopted person, the grief of birth parents, the selflessness of adoptive parents, and the bravery of families formed through adoption; and

**WHEREAS,** Vermont's future depends on today's children; and

**WHEREAS,** nationwide, approximately 113,000 children in foster care are awaiting permanent families; and

**WHEREAS,** since January 1, 2023, over 160 adoptions have occurred in Vermont, representing children adopted following child welfare involvement, private and intercountry minor adoptions, adoptions of children by their step or second parent, and adult adoptions; and

**WHEREAS,** on July 1, 2023, Vermont enacted a change to adoption law, expanding access to adoption records in Vermont, with over 150 individuals connecting with the Vermont Adoption Registry to access information about their previously inaccessible records since then; and

**WHEREAS,** approximately 100 children in Vermont are waiting for permanent families; and

**WHEREAS,** to help these children find permanent, nurturing families, courts and agencies across the nation will strive to raise awareness surrounding adoption in the month of November; and

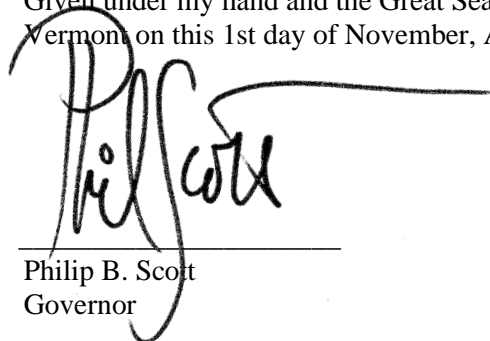
**WHEREAS,** this effort, along with similar efforts in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, will offer children the chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of a child through adoption; and

**WHEREAS,** Vermont honors the crucial needs of these children and all of those who work tirelessly to place them in loving families, to ensure children have permanent loving families to grow up in.


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

**ADOPTION MONTH  
in Vermont.**

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of November, A.D. 2023.

  
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Philip B. Scott  
Governor



  
Brittney J. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs