

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

**WHEREAS,** Arabic is one of the oldest spoken languages in human history, originating in the 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D.; and

**WHEREAS,** for centuries, Arabic connected people through literature, music, poetry, and philosophy; and

**WHEREAS,** there are over 1.4 million Americans who speak Arabic at home, making it the nation’s seventh-most common non-English language spoken at home; and

**WHEREAS,** on December 18, 1973, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted Arabic as the sixth official United Nations Language; and

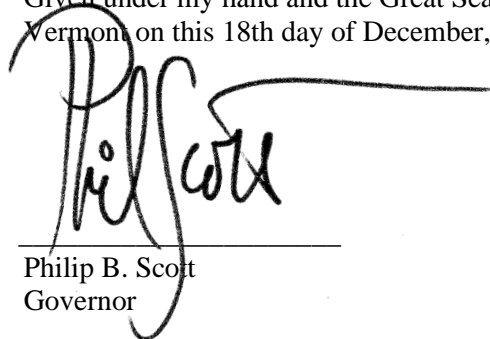
**WHEREAS,** Arabic Language Day also celebrates the Arabic language beyond its use at the United Nations and other international organizations – and recognizes its beauty, lyricism, and the way it expresses the Arab identity; and

**WHEREAS,** celebrating the language and culture of our fellow Vermonters is important to our sense of community, and ensuring our state is welcoming and inclusive.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim the 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023, as

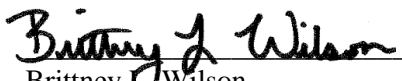
**ARABIC LANGUAGE DAY**  
in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 18th day of December, A.D. 2023.



Philip B. Scott  
Governor



  
Brittney J. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs