State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Proclamation 21-061, A Proclamation of Inclusion, signed on May 7, 2021, established the second week of May as Inclusion Week; and WHEREAS, Vermont strives to be a leader in protecting hard-fought civil rights, and is committed to eliminating hatred and bigotry in all systems and institutions to improve outcomes for all Vermonters and build more multicultural and socially cohesive communities; and WHEREAS, Vermont must create a culture in which racial, ethnic and other cultural disparities are openly acknowledged and addressed; and WHEREAS, Vermont has demonstrated leadership in this regard through the creation of a Racial Equity Advisory Panel, Racial Equity Task Force and the hiring of the Executive Director of Racial Equity; and the State must and will continue to address the challenges of achieving racial and WHEREAS, ethnic equity across Vermont and to nurture the diverse society in which we want our youth to live and prosper; and WHEREAS, Vermont will continue to welcome all persons with myriad skills and traditions to work, live, and raise families: and we must bring state and local leaders, agencies, and interested parties together across WHEREAS, Vermont to examine existing law on hate crimes, evaluate systems of support and look to increase civic participation among racially diverse populations; and we also urge those same leaders and all Vermont residents to denounce prejudice WHEREAS, and welcome all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, age, or disability, and to protect these classes to the fullest extent of the law. NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim May 5-11, 2024, as

> INCLUSION WEEK in Vermont.



Brittney **O**Wilson Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermon on this 1st day of May, A.D. 2024.

Philip B. Scott Governor