

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** the first national “Co-op Month” was celebrated in 1964 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and has since been celebrated every October in the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS,** co-operatives and credit unions are businesses locally owned by everyday people who join together to achieve shared goals, solve a challenge, or meet a community need, together; and
- WHEREAS,** co-operatives enable giving people to work together to meet a wide variety of needs, goals and aspirations including healthy food, employment, farm products, financial services (credit unions), electric, telephone and cable services, and health care, housing, and insurance; and
- WHEREAS,** in the United States, there are about 65,000 co-operatives, and one out of every three people is a member of at least one co-operative or credit union; and
- WHEREAS,** around the world, there are about three million co-operatives, and about 12% of the population are members of a co-operative with about 10% of the world’s population, or around 280 million people, employed by co-operatives; and
- WHEREAS,** co-operatives play a major role in the regional economy of the State of Vermont; and
- WHEREAS,** the co-operative philosophy of working together for the common good has promoted community well-being and improved the quality of life for the the people Vermont; and
- WHEREAS,** the United Nations has declared 2025 to be the Second International Year of Co-operatives, highlighting the contribution of the co-operatives to sustainable development, economic inclusion, and stronger communities; and
- WHEREAS,** the Neighboring Food Co-op Association has endorsed the Co-op Month 2025 theme, “Co-operatives Build a Better World,” which was established by the National Co-operative Business Association to celebrate the Year of Co-operatives and raise awareness of co-operatives as a trusted, proven way to do business and build resilient, sustainable, and inclusive communities.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim the month of October, 2025 as

CO-OP MONTH
in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 1st day of October, A.D. 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Philip B. Scott". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jaye Pershing Johnson". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Jaye Pershing Johnson

Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs