

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, one in every 3,000 live births are diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH); and

WHEREAS, since 2000, it is estimated that over 500,000 babies worldwide have been born with CDH; however, only 50 percent of those babies survived; and

WHEREAS, CDH is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis; however, very few people know about it or are aware of it; and

WHEREAS, 1,600 babies are born with CDH every year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there are many people living in Vermont who have been diagnosed with and have survived CDH; although many families in Vermont have endured the horrible pain and grief associated with the loss of loved ones with CDH; and

WHEREAS, those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complication beyond their diagnosis that include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness of this congenital defect will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering with it and will help advocate for urgently needed medical research and advances;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 19, 2016 as

CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA ACTION DAY



in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 26th day of January, A.D. 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'P' followed by a long horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor