

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, April marks the anniversary of the passage of the Federal Fair Housing Act, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, which represents a national policy of fair housing without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, and disability, and encourages fair housing opportunities for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, Vermont has been a leader in the country by enacting a law to extend protections of the Federal Fair Housing Act to include sexual orientation, age, marital status, gender identity, and recipients of public assistance as protected classes; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont is committed to taking affirmative steps to ensure that its housing programs provide equal opportunity to all Vermonters; and

WHEREAS, the state took the further step to ensure fair housing in 2012 by enacting a law prohibiting discrimination against housing developments in land use and planning decisions based on the income of intended residents; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont supports fairness in all housing transactions by continuing to address discrimination, supporting programs that educate the public about the right to equal housing opportunities, and collaborating with organizations to assure every Vermonter of their right to equal housing; and

WHEREAS, only through the continued cooperation, commitment and support of all Vermonters can barriers to fair housing be permanently removed from our state and increased opportunities be created;

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

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 28th day of March, A.D. 2016



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Shumlin', written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor