

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, all Vermont citizens should be made aware of the dangers posed by potentially poisonous common household substances; and

WHEREAS our children too often have access to commonly used drugs and medicines and to potentially toxic household products such as cleaners, polishes, paint solvents and antifreeze; and

WHEREAS poisons and improper use of household products (such as inhalant abuse) pose a persistent danger to Vermont and all communities should be made aware of the potential harm of these substances; and

WHEREAS studies indicate that six percent of eighth graders have abused inhalants and that abuse can begin as early as third grade, and inhalant abuse can be disabling and or cause sudden death; and

WHEREAS the Northern New England Poison Center is an integral part of the emergency medical care system in Vermont and is recognized for its contributions to poison treatment; and

WHEREAS nearly 46% of the 5,058 Vermont poisonings reported to the Northern New England Poison Center in 2012 involved children less than six years of age and could have been prevented;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 17-23, 2013 as

POISON AND INHALANT PREVENTION WEEK

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 27th day of February, A.D. 2013.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor