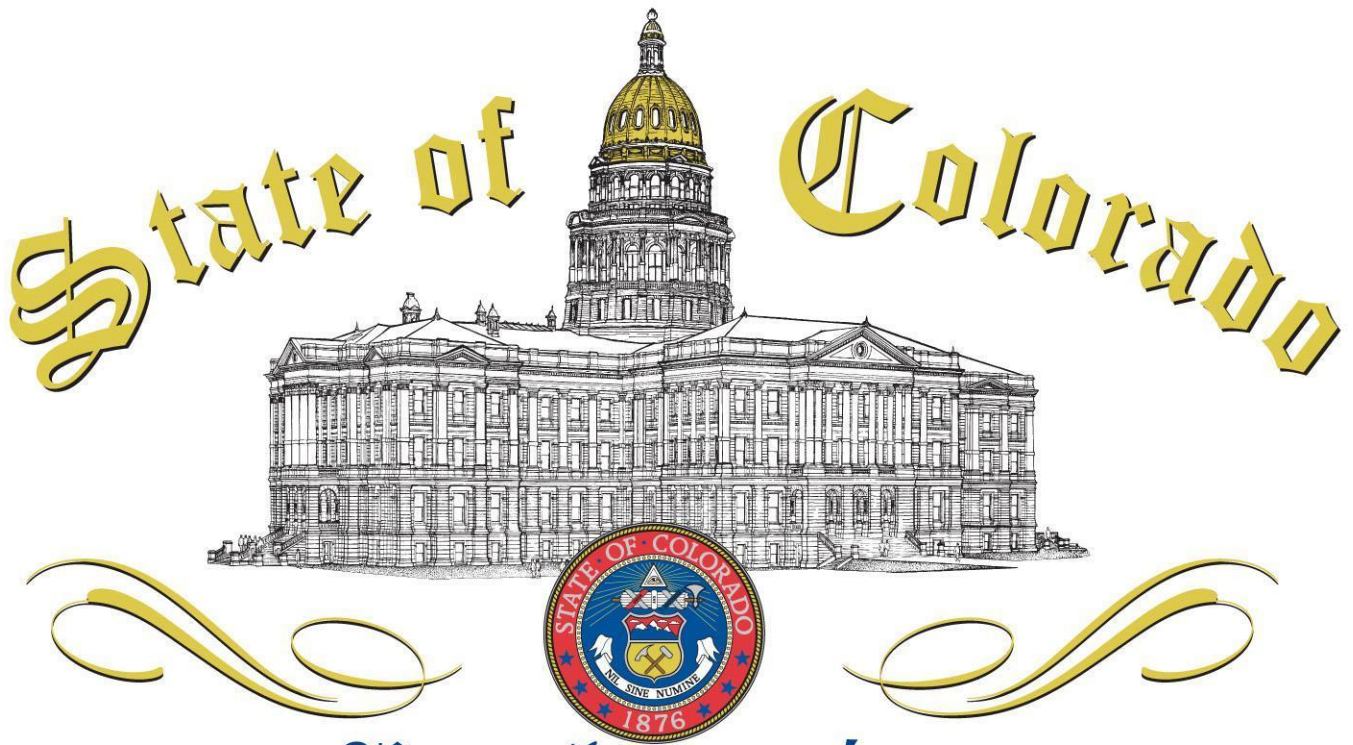


National Healthcare Decisions Day

Reach out locally or state-wide to get your Mayor or Governor to give a Proclamation for NHDD- click state name below for samples.

- [Colorado](#)
- [Kentucky](#)
- [New Hampshire](#)
- [New Jersey](#)
- [South Carolina](#)
- [Tennessee](#)
- [Vermont](#)



Proclamation

WHEREAS, April 16th is National Healthcare Decision Day designated to increase public awareness about the importance of written documents that explain individual preferences in healthcare decisions, such as advance directives for end of life; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that only one in three US adults completes any type of advance directive for end-of-life care, and even fewer have written descriptions of the type of care they want if incapacitated and in need of medical care; and

WHEREAS, written directives can alleviate unnecessary suffering, improve quality of life, and support adults at any age or stage of health in understanding and sharing their personal values, life goals, and preferences regarding future medical care; and

WHEREAS, advance healthcare planning is not just for those who are facing end of life or terminal illness; and

WHEREAS, The Survivorship and Palliative Care Task Force of the Colorado Cancer Coalition supports individuals in getting the planning and care tools that they need;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of Colorado, do hereby proclaim April 16, 2021 as

COLORADO HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this sixteenth day of April, 2021

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

*Jared Polis
Governor*



Proclamation

by

Matthew G. Bevin
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

- WHEREAS, Healthcare Decision Day is designed to raise public awareness on the need to plan ahead for health care decisions, related to end of life care and medical decision-making whenever patients are unable to speak for themselves and to encourage the specific use of advance directives to communicate these important health care decisions; and
- WHEREAS, Decisions concerning health care should be made by individuals in consultation with their families and their healthcare provider; and
- WHEREAS, It is estimated that only about 27 percent of Americans have completed an advance directive; and
- WHEREAS, It is likely that a significant reason for the low percentages is that there is both a lack of knowledge and considerable confusion in the public about Advance Directives; and
- WHEREAS, One of the principal goals of Healthcare Decisions Day is to encourage hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, continuing care retirement communities and hospices to participate in a Commonwealth-wide effort to provide clear and consistent information to the public about advance directives, as well as to encourage medical professionals and lawyers to volunteer their time and efforts to improve public knowledge and increase the number of Kentuckians with advanced directives;


NOW, THEREFORE, I, MATTHEW G. BEVIN, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby declare April 16, 2019, as

HEALTHCARE DECISION DAY

in Kentucky.



DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 20th day of March, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen and in the 227th year of the Commonwealth.


MATTHEW G. BEVIN
GOVERNOR


ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES
SECRETARY OF STATE

The State of New Hampshire
By His Excellency
Christopher T. Sununu, Governor

A Proclamation

In the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Nineteen

HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY
APRIL 16, 2019

WHEREAS, Healthcare Decisions Day is designed to raise public awareness of the need to plan ahead for health care decisions related to serious illness or end of life care and medical decision-making whenever patients are unable to communicate for themselves, and to encourage the specific use of advance directives to convey these important health care decisions; and

WHEREAS, in New Hampshire, the Foundation for Healthy Communities provides the information on advance care planning and offers a model form for public use; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that only about 20 percent of people in New Hampshire have executed an advance directive. Moreover, it is estimated that less than 50 percent of severely or terminally ill patients have an advance directive; and

WHEREAS, it is likely that a significant reason for these low percentages is that there is both a lack of knowledge and considerable confusion in the public about Advance Directives; and

WHEREAS, one of the principal goals of Healthcare Decisions Day is to encourage hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, continuing care retirement communities, and hospices to participate in a State-wide effort to provide clear and consistent information to the public about advance directives, as well as to encourage medical professionals and lawyers to volunteer their time and efforts to improve public knowledge and increase the number of New Hampshire citizens with advance directives; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation for Healthy Communities and other organizations throughout New Hampshire have endorsed this event and are committed to educating the public about the importance of discussing health care choices and executing advance directives; and

WHEREAS, as a result of April 16, 2019, being recognized as Healthcare Decisions Day in New Hampshire, more citizens will have conversations about their health care decisions; more citizens will execute Advance Directives to make their wishes known; and fewer families and health care providers will have to struggle with making difficult health care decisions in the absence of guidance from the patient;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **APRIL 16, 2019** as **HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY** in the State of New Hampshire, and call this day to the attention of all citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of New Hampshire to be affixed this 4th day of April, 2019.

Christopher T. Sununu

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor





STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, in New Jersey, N.J.S.A. § 26:2H-58 allows individuals to name a durable power of attorney for healthcare and N.J.S.A § 26:2H-53 provides the specifics for a healthcare directive, offering a model form for patient use; and

WHEREAS, health care organizations across New Jersey are assisting residents to plan ahead for future healthcare decisions in the event that they are unable to make their own medical decisions and to encourage the use of advance directives to communicate these important healthcare decisions; and

WHEREAS, according to a report by the New Jersey Healthcare Quality Institute, it is estimated that 60 percent of people in New Jersey have not put their end-of-life wishes in writing, and 38 percent have not had conversations expressing their end-of-life wishes; and

WHEREAS, a significant reason for these low rates may be the lack of knowledge and considerable confusion about advance care planning and advance directives; and

WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day is designed to inspire, educate, and empower the public and healthcare providers about the importance of advance care planning and encourage physicians and care teams, medical groups, hospital and health systems, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, retirement communities, and hospices to participate in a statewide effort to provide clear and consistent information to the public about advance care planning; and

WHEREAS, conversations about healthcare decisions and the execution of advance directives that make patients' wishes known, will mean that fewer families and healthcare providers will struggle with making difficult healthcare decisions in the absence of guidance from the patient;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the state of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

APRIL 16, 2019

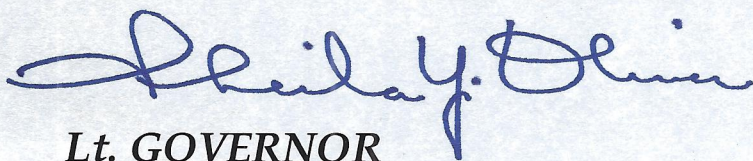
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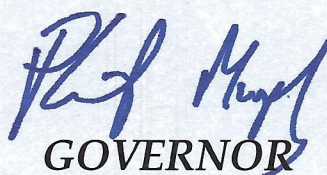
HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY

in New Jersey, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-fifth day of March in the year two thousand nineteen, the two hundred forty-third year of the Independence of the United States.


Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, Healthcare Decisions Week is designed to raise public awareness of the need to plan ahead for healthcare decisions, especially those related to end-of-life care and medical decision-making when patients are unable to speak for themselves, and to encourage the specific use of advance directives to communicate those important healthcare decisions; and

WHEREAS, decisions concerning health care should be made by individuals in consultation with their families and their healthcare provider; and

WHEREAS, many South Carolinians do not make adequate preparation for healthcare decisions in times of crisis or at end of life even though such preparation is readily accessible through the medical and legal communities; and

WHEREAS, Healthcare Decisions Week helps raise awareness of the need to provide clear and consistent information to the public about advance directives and encourages medical and legal professionals to volunteer their time and efforts to improve public knowledge and increase the number of South Carolina citizens with advance directives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 15-21, 2018, as

HEALTHCARE DECISIONS WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together with the legal and medical communities to ensure that an individual's wishes for health care, particularly as it relates to end-of-life care, are prepared, protected, and followed.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Henry McMaster".

HENRY McMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Healthcare Decisions Day is designed to raise public awareness of the need to plan ahead for health care decisions, related to end of life care and medical decision-making whenever patients are unable to speak for themselves and to encourage the specific use of advance directives to communicate these important health care decisions; and

WHEREAS, in Tennessee, the Health Care Decisions Act provides the specifics of our advance directives law and offers a model form for Tennesseans use; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that only about 27 percent of Americans have completed an advance directive; and

WHEREAS, it is likely that a significant reason for these low percentages is that there is both a lack of knowledge and considerable confusion in the public about Advance Directives; and

WHEREAS, one of the principal goals of Healthcare Decisions Day is to encourage hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, continuing care retirement communities, and hospices to participate in a State-wide effort to provide clear and consistent information to the public about advance directives, as well as to encourage medical professionals and lawyers to volunteer their time and efforts to improve public knowledge and increase the number of Tennessee citizens with advance directives; and

WHEREAS, the Honoring Choices® Tennessee, a statewide coalition of state agencies, private industry, healthcare associations and other organizations throughout Tennessee have endorsed this event and are committed to educating the public about the importance of discussing health care choices and executing advance directives; and

WHEREAS, as a result of April 16, 2018, being recognized as Healthcare Decisions Day in Tennessee, we hope that more citizens will have conversations about their health care decisions; more citizens will complete an Advance Directives to make their wishes known; and fewer families and health care providers will have to struggle with making difficult health care decisions in the absence of guidance from the patient;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 16, 2018 as

Healthcare Decisions Day

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this twenty-sixth day of March, 2018.



Governor



Secretary of State



State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, serious illness, accident or injury can happen to anyone at any time regardless of age or health status; and

WHEREAS, it is in everyone's best interest to have their goals and values known at times of incapacity and end-of-life; and

WHEREAS, under the Laws of 2005, Act No. 55 (the "Act"), the state expressly recognized the fundamental right of an adult to determine the extent of health care the individual will receive, including treatment provided during periods of incapacity and at the end-of-life and enabled adults to retain control over their own health care through the use of advance directives; and

WHEREAS, as directed by the Act, the Vermont Department of Health developed and now maintains an electronic Advance Directive Registry where individuals may register Advance Directives online to ensure critical health care decisions will be honored by hospitals and other health care providers who need quick access to them in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, by completing an Advance Directive, Vermonters are able to communicate their health care goals, preferences and priorities in advance of a health crisis.

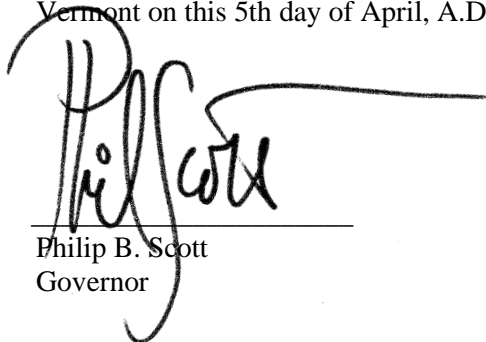
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim April 11-17, 2021 as

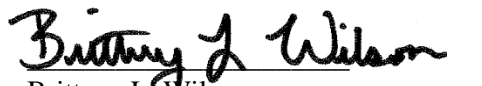
ADVANCE DIRECTIVE WEEK

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of April, A.D. 2021.


Philip B. Scott
Governor


Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs