



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS MONTH**

**2018**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, approximately one in every 2,500 pregnancies are diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH); and

**WHEREAS**, CDH occurs when the diaphragm muscle fails to close during prenatal development, and the contents of the abdomen migrate into the chest through this hole; the estimated survival rate of babies born with CDH is 50 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, CDH is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis; however, very few people are aware of this congenital defect; and

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

**WHEREAS**, there are many people living in North Carolina who have been diagnosed with and have survived their CDH; however, many families in North Carolina 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 – such as heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, and 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, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April, 2018, as “**CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS MONTH**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-ninth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.