



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**ESOPHAGEAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

**2018**

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

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, esophageal cancer is one of the fastest growing cancer diagnoses in the United States; the American Cancer Society estimates 17,290 new cases and 15,850 deaths from esophageal cancer in 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, esophageal cancer is among the deadliest cancers with fewer than one in five patients surviving five years; and

**WHEREAS**, despite its rapid increase and poor prognosis, esophageal cancer receives very little research funding; the National Cancer Institute Funded Research Portfolio shows esophageal cancer distribution at less than 1 percent of total cancer funding; and

**WHEREAS**, esophageal cancer can be a silent killer with patients often unaware that the heartburn, difficulty swallowing, cough, hoarse voice, sore throat, or chest pain they suffer can be reasons to discuss screening for esophageal cancer with their medical care professional; and

**WHEREAS**, esophageal cancer is often discovered during advanced stages, but if discovered early, chances for recovery and survival are far greater; treatments for the disease include surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, laser therapy, and electrocoagulation; and

**WHEREAS**, during Esophageal Cancer Awareness Month, the State of North Carolina encourages people to raise awareness of esophageal cancer, know the symptoms, and promote early detection and treatment;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April, 2018, as the “**ESOPHAGEAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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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.