

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

SARCOIDOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, sarcoidosis is a potentially debilitating and deadly multi-organ inflammatory disease, estimated to affect 200,000 people in the United States; there is no known cause, cure, or reliable treatment to slow or halt the progression of chronic cases; and

WHEREAS, the signs and symptoms of sarcoidosis vary widely depending on the person and organs affected, and can include debilitating fatigue; shortness of breath; difficulties with balance and coordination; irregular heartbeat; visual problems, including blindness; pain affecting joints and muscles; weakness or numbness of limbs; skin rash and discoloration; mood disorders such as depression and anxiety; organ failure; and sleep difficulties; and

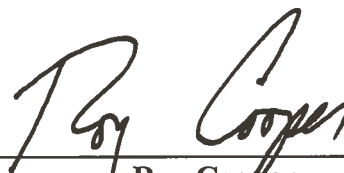
WHEREAS, sarcoidosis affects people of all ages, races, and genders, but is most common among adults between the ages of 20 and 40; although sarcoidosis can affect anyone, the incidence in African-Americans is more than 3 times higher than in Caucasian Americans, and the disease is more likely to be chronic and fatal in African-Americans; and

WHEREAS, sarcoidosis is a diagnosis of exclusion as there is no objective test or biomarker; numerous diagnostic tests and ongoing clinical observation and/or management leads to the high economic burden of this disease, including great costs to patients and family members; and

WHEREAS, volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life and prognosis of people with sarcoidosis and their families; however, more research is needed to find effective treatments and improve care for those living with the disease today;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April, 2018, as **"SARCOIDOSIS 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 thirteenth day of April 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.