



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

#ABLEtoSave MONTH

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census, approximately 56.7 million people – 19 percent of the national population – have a disability; and

WHEREAS, many of these individuals with disabilities rely upon federal benefits such as Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income to foster their independence, maintain their health, support their employment, participate in their communities, and enhance their quality of life; and

WHEREAS, prior to the passage of the federal Stephen Beck, Jr. Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act in 2014 and the North Carolina ABLE Act of 2015, individuals with disabilities were unable to save more than \$2,000 in assets without jeopardizing their eligibility for these critical federal benefits; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina launched the NC ABLE Program in January 2017 to ensure its citizens have access to high-quality ABLE accounts, with the benefit of strong oversight from the NC ABLE Program Board of Trustees, however, many individuals with disabilities and their families are unaware of the life-changing potential of ABLE accounts; and

WHEREAS, the ABLE National Resource Center (ANRC) – a collaborative of over 25 national disability organizations that provide consistent, reliable information concerning the benefits of an ABLE account – has developed #ABLEtoSave, a nationwide campaign to educate individuals with disabilities and their families, the financial sector, and other stakeholders about ABLE’s potential positive impact on the lives of millions of Americans with disabilities; and


WHEREAS, the goal of the #ABLEtoSave campaign is to enhance awareness of ABLE accounts as a financial savings tool, and to increase enrollment in ABLE accounts opened throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, August 2017 as #ABLEtoSave Month in North Carolina will encourage all public, consumer, community-based, and private-sector organizations to provide information and resources about the benefits of ABLE, as well as the high-quality features and benefits of the NC ABLE Program; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina supports the effort to enhance awareness of and education about ABLE and NC ABLE accounts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim August, 2017, as “#ABLEtoSave 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-eighth day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.