



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, in 1920, women in the United States finally won the right to vote when the 19th Amendment was adopted; and

**WHEREAS**, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic economic, cultural, and social contributions to our nation, serving as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement; and

**WHEREAS**, despite these contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States' gender pay gap demonstrates that women continue to be undervalued today; according to the Institute for Women's Policy Research, at the current rate, women will not receive equal pay in North Carolina until the year 2064; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the North Carolina Council for Women Board are appointed by the Governor to address issues such as health and well-being, education, and employment of women in North Carolina;

**WHEREAS**, women in North Carolina continue to advance: 43 percent of our Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) are women-owned and controlled; and women make up 71 percent of the 2017 State Internship Program, which provides on-the-job opportunities for college, community college, graduate, and law students; and


**WHEREAS**, North Carolina women's commissions advocate equal pay, greater access to affordable childcare, education, and increased employability and retention in the workforce, to improve the quality of life for women throughout our state; and

**WHEREAS**, women today continue to serve as leaders in our community – as Chief of Police, University Chancellor, and North Carolina Supreme Court Justice, among other titles – and break through the historic barriers they face; and

**WHEREAS**, women can use their votes to impact their communities, and to improve the lives of young women and girls across North Carolina and throughout the United States;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim August 26, 2017, as “WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY” 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 ninth day of August 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.