



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY**

**2018**

**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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 considerable advances, women in North Carolina face barriers that can prevent them from reaching their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, although the Equal Pay Act is celebrating its 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, the United States' gender pay gap demonstrates that women remain undervalued in today's workplace; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Institute for Women's Policy Research, at the current rate, some women will not receive equal pay in North Carolina until the year 2060; for women of color, it will take even longer to achieve equal pay; 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 our state; and

**WHEREAS**, women in North Carolina continue to advance: more than 35 percent of North Carolina businesses are owned by women, and women make up 63 percent of the 2018 State Internship Program, which provides on-the-job opportunities for college, community college, graduate, and law students; and

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

**WHEREAS**, women continue to break through the historic barriers they face and serve as leaders in our communities; today, women can use their vote to improve the lives of women and girls, and all families throughout North Carolina and the United States;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim August 26, 2018, 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 twenty-third day of August 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.