



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, human trafficking violates the most basic human rights and deprives women, men, and children of their dignity and freedom; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking, the exploitive buying and selling of human beings for labor and sex acts, is the second most lucrative illicit industry in the world, and North Carolina is believed to have one of the top ten highest rates of human trafficking in the United States; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking can happen to anyone in North Carolina, crossing all demographic lines and harming our neighbors across race, gender, age, immigration status, and socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, children are among the most vulnerable to human trafficking, particularly those with a history of sexual, emotional, or physical abuse; those struggling with learning disabilities, substance abuse, or sexual identity issues; children who have experienced the loss of a parent through death, divorce, abandonment, or incarceration; and children who have been, are, or will be involved with our child welfare system; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a public safety issue, a public health issue, and a human rights issue, requiring a collaborative, multi-disciplinary response that involves the skills, expertise, and resources of every citizen and agency in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina – in collaboration with the North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission, the North Carolina Department of Justice, and the many skilled and dedicated stakeholders statewide – has made combatting human trafficking a priority, and commends these stakeholders for their efforts thus far; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina acknowledges the strength and resilience of our people and residents who have survived human trafficking, and is committed to combatting human trafficking in North Carolina for the welfare and freedom of our neighbors and our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim January, 2018, as “**HUMAN TRAFFICKING 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 second day of January 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.