



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS MONTH**

**AND**

**POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS DAY**

**2017**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces, who proudly serve the United States and risk their lives to protect our freedom, deserve the investment of every possible resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, combat operational stress injury has historically been viewed as a mental illness caused by a pre-existing flaw of character and/or ability, and the term Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) carries a stigma that perpetuates this misconception; and

**WHEREAS**, post-traumatic stress injury (PTSI) can occur after experiencing a severely traumatic event such as sexual assault, child abuse, high-impact collision or crash, natural disaster, act of terrorism, military combat, or other forms of trauma; and

**WHEREAS**, referring to the complications from post-traumatic stress as a “disorder” perpetuates the stigma of and bias against mental illness; this stigma can discourage the injured from seeking proper and timely medical treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, destigmatizing and honoring PTSI can favorably influence those affected, encouraging them to seek timely treatment without fear of retribution or shame, and ultimately diminishing suicide rates; and

**WHEREAS**, all citizens suffering from PTSI have a right to dignity and deserve our consideration; those who have received these wounds in action against an enemy of the United States merit especial tribute and acknowledgment;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June, 2017, as “**POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS MONTH**” and June 27, 2017, as “**POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS DAY**” in North Carolina, and commend 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 fifth day of June 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.