



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

HIV TESTING DAY

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, as of December 2016, there are approximately 36,700 people living with HIV or AIDS in North Carolina, an estimated 2,600 of whom are unaware of their infection; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is ranked 11th in the country for newly diagnosed HIV cases; and

WHEREAS, according to the North Carolina HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, of the 1,399 people age 13 and older diagnosed with HIV in 2016, 62 percent are virally suppressed thanks to treatment; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina provides funding for HIV testing, and more than 204,000 HIV tests were conducted at the State Laboratory of Public Health in 2016; and

WHEREAS, changes to the North Carolina HIV control measures took effect January 1, 2018, to help reduce the stigmatization of testing and treatment services, and support the goal of ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for the HIV infection; however, people with an undetectable HIV viral load for at least six months cannot transmit the HIV virus and, when taken as directed, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) can dramatically reduce the risk of acquiring HIV; and

WHEREAS, each year on National HIV Testing Day, the State of North Carolina, local health departments and hospitals, infectious disease doctors, community organizations, and faith-based allies come together to raise awareness of HIV testing and early diagnosis, and link people to care and treatment services;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 27, 2018, as **"HIV TESTING DAY"** 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 fifteenth day of June 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.