



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, some reports estimate that there are 6 million people with Down syndrome in the world today; and

WHEREAS, people with Down syndrome deserve fundamental human and civil rights and yet, in many countries, are not afforded these rights; and

WHEREAS, with improved treatment and access to proper medical care, life expectancy for people with Down syndrome has more than doubled in recent decades – from 25 in 1983 to 60 today; however, there is still much work to be done regarding the rights to equality, inclusion, education, medical care, research, and support for people with Down syndrome in the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, World Down Syndrome Day was first observed by many countries in 2006 and formally designated by the United Nations General Assembly in 2011; the date 3/21 was selected to represent the 3 copies of chromosome 21 that cause Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, the international observance of World Down Syndrome Day has developed into a global movement to celebrate, value, and advocate for people with Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, many non-profit organizations and agencies throughout North Carolina – including the Triangle Down Syndrome Network – empower, connect, and support individuals with Down syndrome and their families in our communities; and

WHEREAS, on World Down Syndrome Day, we commend the self-advocates, families, medical professionals, educators, and organizations working to promote research and awareness to enrich the lives of North Carolinians with Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina joins our nation and more than 190 other countries around the world in celebrating and valuing the lives and equality of people with Down syndrome;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 21, 2018, as “**WORLD DOWN SYNDROME 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 twentieth day of March 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.