



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**VULNERABLE ADULT AND ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH**

**2018**

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

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina joins the world in recognizing World Elder Abuse Awareness Day every June 15; and

**WHEREAS**, protecting North Carolina's vulnerable and older adults is a community responsibility, and all North Carolinians are charged under state law to report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation to their local County Department of Social Services; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina's vulnerable and older adults of all social, economic, racial, and ethnic backgrounds may be targets of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, which can occur in families, long-term care settings, and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, in state Fiscal Year 2017, there were 27,483 reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable and older adults made to North Carolina's 100 County Departments of Social Services; and

**WHEREAS**, national and international research shows that abuse, neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable and older adults is grossly underreported; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina enacted the nation's first elder abuse law, and recognizes the need for a comprehensive system of protection for vulnerable and older adults; and

**WHEREAS**, Mother's and Father's Days are national holidays intended to honor, respect, and promote the dignity and well-being of our country's older adults;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim Mother's Day through Father's Day, May 13 – June 17, 2018, as "**VULNERABLE ADULT AND ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH**" 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 eleventh day of May 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.