



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

VULNERABLE ADULT AND ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTHS

2017

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 15th; and

WHEREAS, protecting North Carolina's vulnerable and older adults is a community responsibility, and all citizens 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 2016 there were 25, 980 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 older citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim Mother's Day through Father's Day, May 14 – June 18, 2017, as "**VULNERABLE ADULT AND ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTHS**" in North Carolina, and commend 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 first day of May 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.