



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP DAY**

**2017**

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

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, women account for more than 45 percent of the global workforce, and control, create, and influence more than \$20 trillion – a quarter of the world's wealth; and

**WHEREAS**, women owned nearly 10 million businesses in the United States as of 2012, employing 8.9 million people and generating \$1.6 trillion in revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, in North Carolina, women make up 47 percent of the workforce, and own approximately 28 percent of our state's more than 800,000 businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of women-owned firms in our state has increased 83 percent in the past 15 years, making North Carolina one of the top 10 states nationally for women-owned businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, on average, women in North Carolina and throughout the United States continue to earn less than 80 percent of men's annual salaries for full-time, year-round employment; African American and Hispanic women earn less than 65 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, eradicating extreme poverty across our nation and throughout the world depends on ensuring inclusive economic growth that reaches typically excluded populations, particularly women; and

**WHEREAS**, in a recent survey, women entrepreneurs indicated that an obstacle for women in business is the lack of mentors and advisors available to provide guidance and support; and

**WHEREAS**, Women's Entrepreneurship Day is a movement to support women in business globally by encouraging women leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs to initiate startups, drive economic expansion, and advance communities worldwide; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina recognizes this event to promote the advancement of women's entrepreneurship throughout our state, nation, and the world;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 19, 2017, as "WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP DAY" 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 sixth day of November 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.