



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

DIWALI

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, more than one billion people worldwide reverently observe the holy celebration of Diwali each year; and

WHEREAS, Diwali, the Festival of Lights which symbolizes the victory of dharma and good over evil, is one of the most celebrated festivals of Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains; and

WHEREAS, Diwali is a time for *dana* (charitable giving) and *seva* (selfless service) by bringing light in the form of wisdom, knowledge, nourishment, and shelter to alleviate the tangible forms of suffering such as hunger, disease, and poverty; and

WHEREAS, the shared Indian holiday of Diwali signifies a special time of peace and serenity, with the hope of building bridges of understanding and tearing down barriers of intolerance; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina wishes all our celebrants a joyful and prosperous Diwali this and every year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 17 – 21, 2017, as “**DIWALI**” 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 ninth day of October 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.