

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT MONTH**

**2017**

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

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, since 1983, the Minority Business Development Agency within the United States Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the United States Small Business Administration, has sponsored Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week to honor the accomplishments of minority entrepreneurs across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the United States Department of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), there are more than 183,000 minority-owned businesses in North Carolina, which realize over \$16.1 billion in sales annually; these businesses create economic growth and stability with over 261,000 jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, minority business enterprises in North Carolina employ more than 129,000 residents and work to build a skilled labor force, contributing to the competitiveness of our state; and


**WHEREAS**, during the fall of 2017, thousands of minority entrepreneurs; corporate representatives; federal, state, and local governments; and non-profit entities statewide will participate in programs that recognize the success achieved by minority businesses and their contributions to the economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the goals of Minority Business Development Month include increasing minority individuals' awareness of the benefits, risks, requirements, and rewards of owning a business; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina encourages citizens to celebrate the outstanding accomplishments made by minority-owned firms, and support minority business development;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October, 2017, as "**MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT MONTH**" 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 twenty-first day of September 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.