



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children in the United States, and an estimated 10,590 new cancer cases will be diagnosed among children 0 to 14 years of age in 2018; and

WHEREAS, on average, childhood cancer incidence rates have increased by 0.6 percent every year since 1975, for an overall increase of more than 25 percent in the last 43 years; and

WHEREAS, the early diagnosis of childhood cancer is often hampered by nonspecific symptoms shared by common childhood conditions, causing high rates of childhood cancer patients diagnosed late and with metastatic disease; and

WHEREAS, because of major treatment advances in recent decades, more than 80 percent of childhood cancer patients now survive 5 years or more; however, more than 1 in 10 children under the age of 15 diagnosed with cancer in 2018 are still expected to die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, as many as 90 percent of adults treated for cancer during childhood develop one or more chronic health conditions later in life, with as many as 80 percent experiencing severe or life-threatening complications during adulthood; and

WHEREAS, many survivors of childhood cancer and their families struggle with the economic consequences, or financial toxicity, of treatment many years after follow-up tests have been completed; and

WHEREAS, increased funding is critical to advance research of pediatric cancer testing, diagnosis, and treatment; in the last 20 years, only four new drugs have been approved by the FDA to specifically treat childhood cancer; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of non-profit organizations at the local and national level, including the American Childhood Cancer Organization, help children with cancer and their families cope by providing educational, emotional, and financial support; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina commends the many advocates, researchers, and health care professionals working to improve the lives of families affected by childhood cancer; too many children are affected by this deadly disease, and more must be done to raise awareness and find a cure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September, 2018, as "**CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS 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 seventh day of September 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.