

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

WINE AND GRAPE MONTH

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the wine and grape industry is an important part of North Carolina's agricultural, tourism, and commercial industries; and

WHEREAS, vineyards and wineries significantly enhance the state by providing unique travel destinations, green spaces, and aesthetic appeal; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to our nation's first cultivated wine grape, the scuppernong, which grew wild on Roanoke Island from the Mother Vine; the grapes were noticed in 1584 by explorers of Sir Walter Raleigh's expedition to the New World, and North Carolina eventually became the leading wine-producing state prior to Prohibition; and

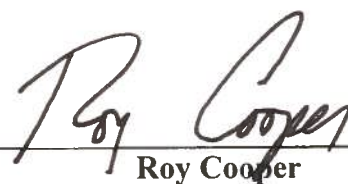
WHEREAS, by some estimates, North Carolina ranks as high as 7th nationally in wine production with nearly 200 wineries across the state, and 9th nationally in grape production with 525 commercial grape growers; and

WHEREAS, our state is home to five distinct American Viticultural Areas – Appalachian High Country, Haw River Valley, Swan Creek, Upper Hiwassee Highlands, and Yadkin Valley – each defined by their unique climate, soil, and growing conditions; and

WHEREAS, the annual economic impact of North Carolina-produced wines and grapes is estimated at \$1.97 billion, employing 10,296 full-time workers in the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September, 2018, as **"WINE AND GRAPE 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-fourth day of August 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.