



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, during World War I, the first major United States aviation combat force was created as the Air Service of the American Expeditionary Force, which became a branch of the U.S. Army in 1920; and

WHEREAS, the Air Service of the American Expeditionary Force was renamed the Army Air Corps in 1921, and became the Army Air Forces during World War II, providing tactical air missions in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters of operation; and

WHEREAS, in 1945, the U.S. Army sought reorganization to provide for the separation of the Air Forces from the Army; on September 18, 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed the National Security Act and created the U.S. Air Force as an independent service, equal to the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to close to 10,000 men and women serving as Airmen on active duty, reserve status, or as citizen-soldiers of our Air National Guard; and

WHEREAS, the impact of the Air Force across our state extends beyond Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, Pope Field in Fayetteville, and the North Carolina Air National Guard bases in Charlotte and New London; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Air Force has grown and evolved into a superior fighting force capable of deploying forces around the world and achieving air superiority in both combat and support missions; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina has a proud tradition of supporting all Armed Forces in their mission to defend our principles of liberty and freedom, and is widely considered the most military-friendly state in the nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 18, 2018, as "**BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**" 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 seventeenth 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.