



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE DOG WEEK

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, assistance dogs are devoted companions, helpers, aides, best friends and family members that transform the lives of their human partners with physical, mental, and/or emotional disabilities; and

WHEREAS, assistance dogs include service dogs, guide dogs, hearing alert dogs, and medical alert/seizure response dogs; and

WHEREAS, people with vision loss rely on guide dogs to navigate physical obstacles; cross streets; find destinations, seating, and safe spaces; enter or exit doorways, elevators, and stairways; and more; and

WHEREAS, hearing alert dogs notify people with hearing loss of specific sounds such as doorbells, telephones, crying babies, sirens, another person, buzzing timers or sensors, and knocks at the door; they can also warn a human partner about smoke, fire, and emergency alarms; and

WHEREAS, service dogs assist people with disabilities in walking, balance, dressing, transferring from place to place, retrieving and carrying items, opening doors and drawers, pushing buttons, pulling wheelchairs, and completing household chores; and

WHEREAS, medical alert/response dogs identify and/or respond to medical conditions such as post-traumatic stress injury, epilepsy, seizure disorders, balance issues, and chronic pain; or to oncoming medical events such as a heart attack, stroke, diabetic shock or insulin reaction, panic attack, or anxiety attack; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services supports the use of service dogs to improve the lives of people with disabilities and help them live full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, International Assistance Dog Week provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the countless ways in which all assistance dogs help individuals to mitigate their disability-related limitations; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina reaffirms a commitment to respect, celebrate, and recognize assistance dogs and their partners in our communities this International Assistance Dog Week and throughout the year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim August 5 – 11, 2018, as “**INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE DOG WEEK**” 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 thirty-first day of July 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.