



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY**

**2019**

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

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Healthcare Decisions Day is designed to raise awareness of the need to plan ahead for end-of-life care and medical decision-making whenever patients are unable to speak for themselves, and to encourage the specific use of advance directives to communicate these important health care decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-320 - 322 and 32A-15 govern the process for obtaining advance directives and offer optional forms for patient use; and

**WHEREAS**, according to recent research, nearly 37 percent of Americans have advance directives for end-of-life care if they become seriously ill or unable to make health care decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, lack of knowledge and considerable confusion about advance directives contribute to the low percentage of people who have executed advance directives; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the main objectives of Healthcare Decisions Day is to encourage hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, continuing care retirement communities, medical practices, hospices, and others to participate in a statewide effort to provide clear and consistent information to the public about advance directives, as well as to encourage medical professionals and attorneys to volunteer their time and efforts to improve public knowledge and increase the number of people with advance directives; and

**WHEREAS**, organizations throughout North Carolina are committed to educating the public about the importance of discussing health care choices and executing advance directives; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina recognizes the importance of conversations about health care decisions; advance directives; and establishing clear wishes that prevent medical professionals from having to make difficult health care decisions without guidance from their patient;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 16, 2019, as "HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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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 second day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.