



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

## **ALPHA-1 ANTITRYPSIN DEFICIENCY (ALPHA-1) AWARENESS MONTH**

**2019**

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

### **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha-1) is a hereditary genetic condition that can result in life-threatening lung disease in adults and/or liver disease at any age; and

**WHEREAS**, Alpha-1 occurs worldwide, but its prevalence varies by population; the Alpha-1 Foundation reports that Alpha-1 affects nearly 1 out of every 2,500 people in the United States, which equates to approximately 100,000 people; and

**WHEREAS**, Alpha-1 is widely under diagnosed and misdiagnosed as asthma or smoking-related Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), causing patients to miss opportunities for the early support and treatment therapies available to them; fewer than 10 percent of people predicted to have Alpha-1 have been accurately diagnosed; and

**WHEREAS**, anyone suffering from COPD or unexplained liver disease is encouraged to take a simple blood test to rule out Alpha-1 as the cause; it is important to increase awareness and detection of this serious hereditary disorder to reduce misdiagnoses and improve treatment options for those affected; and

**WHEREAS**, Alpha-1 Awareness Month is a nationwide campaign to advocate for those affected by this condition by raising awareness, funding research, and educating the public and medical community about Alpha-1 detection and treatment;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November, 2019, as “**ALPHA-1 ANTITRYPSIN DEFICIENCY (ALPHA-1) AWARENESS MONTH**” 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 thirty-first day of October 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-fourth.