

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH**

**2019**

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

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, epilepsy is the 4<sup>th</sup> most common neurological disorder and causes seizures that temporarily affect a person's consciousness, physical movements, body sensations, and can permanently affect the lifestyle of the person diagnosed; and

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 3.4 million people have epilepsy nationwide, which includes nearly 470,000 children; 1 in 26 people will develop epilepsy or recurring seizures in their lifetime; and

**WHEREAS**, epilepsy accounts for \$15.5 billion in direct and indirect costs nationally each year; adults with epilepsy experience health and social disparities, and report worse mental health, cognitive impairment, and barriers in social participation; and

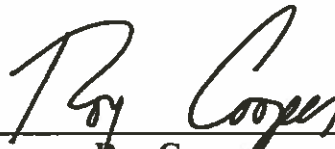
**WHEREAS**, more than 60 percent of those diagnosed with epilepsy have seizures that can be controlled with drug therapies, surgery, or other forms of treatment including dietary approaches, assistive technology, and electrical devices; however, the remaining 30 – 40 percent have intractable epilepsy, which is medication resistant and extremely difficult to treat; and

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative that we support funding for epilepsy research, raise awareness to prevent SUDEP (Sudden Unexplained Death in Epilepsy), and eliminate the social stigma surrounding epilepsy; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina recognizes Epilepsy Awareness Month and encourages citizens to spread understanding, education, and compassion in order to improve the lives of people living with epilepsy and their families in our communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November, 2019 as **"EPILEPSY 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.