

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

FEMALE VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY

2019

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, there are nearly 21.5 million veterans nationwide and more than 736,000 veterans living in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the number of veterans in North Carolina represents 9.8% of the state's total population, and 9% of the total veteran population in North Carolina are female; and

WHEREAS, many of these female veterans served during post-9/11, the Gulf War, Vietnam War, Korean War and World War II on the front lines as nurses, soldiers and more; and

WHEREAS, in 1917 Loretta Walsh became the first female to enlist in the United States Military, and in 1918 a law was passed that allowed Caucasian women to officially become a permanent part of the military service; and

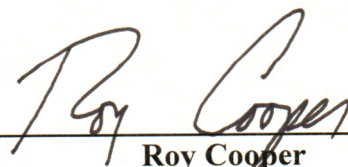
WHEREAS, in 1941 the Army opened its nurse corps to African-American women but established a ceiling of 56 women; it was after the Nurse Training Bill to bar racial bias that 2,000 African-American women were enrolled in the Cadet Nurse Corps, and by 1944 the quota for black nurses was eliminated which allowed more than 500 African-American Army nurses to serve stateside and overseas during World War II; and

WHEREAS, the stories of female veterans have often been overlooked and underappreciated, and there are many challenges that they face returning from duty; and

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1948 President Truman signed the official order integrating the Armed Forces that enabled women to become full members of the U.S. Armed Forces regardless of race, color, religion or national origin; we celebrate the milestones set by servicewomen who refused to accept the status quo and paved the way for the next generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim July 26, 2019, as "**FEMALE VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY**" 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 fifteenth day of July 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-third.