

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

GOSPEL MUSIC MONTH

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the origin of gospel music can be traced to black oral traditions in the early 17th century, drawing upon the syncopated rhythms and call and response form of African American spirituals; and

WHEREAS, the term gospel is used to describe a variety of different music styles of praise and worship; the African American gospel tradition found in eastern and Piedmont North Carolina emerged around the turn of the 20th century, alongside ragtime, jazz, and blues; and

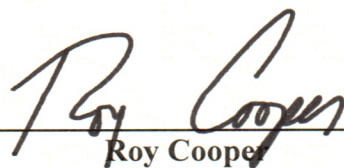
WHEREAS, gospel music has been an important source of cultural connection and upbringing for countless individuals and families across North Carolina, filling churches, homes, and radios with songs of faith; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina has been home to many nationally known gospel artists such as the Reverend Faircloth C. Barnes, his son, Luther Barnes, the Anointed Jackson Sisters, the Reverend Malkarska Williams and the Williams Family; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina is proud to honor the long history of gospel music in our state, and the significant impact it has had on our culture, our residents, and our faith;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 2020, as **"GOSPEL MUSIC MONTH"** 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 twenty-eighth day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fourth.