

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JUVENILE JUSTICE WEEK

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, North Carolina's juvenile justice system provides public safety intervention for all children and youth who are alleged or found to have committed an undisciplined or criminal offense in the state of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Juvenile Justice Section of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice, within the Department of Public Safety, is committed to reduce and prevent juvenile delinquency by intervening, educating, and treating youth, strengthening families and increasing public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Strategy of North Carolina's juvenile justice system allows for graduated therapeutic responses based on a youth's seriousness of risk, behavior, or crime; history of offending; and his or her family or support systems within the local community; and

WHEREAS, this approach requires strong, effective partnerships in local jurisdictions to serve children and adolescents in their communities rather than in institutions; interventions happen as soon as delinquent behavior occurs, helping to identify any small groups of serious, violent juvenile offenders in local areas; and

WHEREAS, juvenile justice staff provide many services to youth and families including courtroom and case-management services; risk and needs assessment; referral to community programming; operation of secure commitment centers; medical, clinical and mental health services; and educational, vocational and life skills development; and

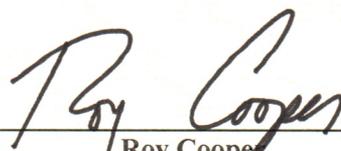
WHEREAS, the dedication and hard work – especially during the worldwide coronavirus pandemic – of these nearly 1,400 full-time Juvenile Justice professionals and community partners have aided in decreasing the juvenile crime rate in North Carolina to 16.82 per every 1,000 children, which is the lowest recorded rate since tracking juvenile data began in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, through diligence and hard work over the last three years, Juvenile Justice professionals and community stakeholders across the state transitioned successfully when lawmakers raised the age of juvenile jurisdiction for nonviolent crimes to age 18, and began serving this new population of young people in North Carolina's juvenile justice system on December 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina recognizes Juvenile Justice Week to encourage public understanding of our juvenile justice system, and to commend the Juvenile Justice Section of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, law enforcement partners, advocacy organizations, and all who work with children and adolescents in our juvenile justice system and their families, crime victims, and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 11 – 17, 2020, as “**JUVENILE JUSTICE WEEK**” 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 seventh day of October 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-fifth.