



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

## LISSENCEPHALY AWARENESS DAY

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, lissencephaly is a rare brain malformation that causes the cerebral cortex to have fewer ridges and folds, giving it the appearance of being smooth; the National Organization for Rare Disorders estimates that about 1 in 100,000 individuals are born with this condition; and

**WHEREAS**, lissencephaly may occur due to various genetic and non-genetic factors; these factors can include intrauterine infection, an insufficient supply of oxygenated blood to the brain during fetal development, and/or different gene mutations; and

**WHEREAS**, people living with this condition may suffer from subtle facial changes, developmental delays, impaired motor abilities, seizures, difficulty swallowing, abnormally diminished muscle tone (hypertonia) early in life, and increased muscle tone (hypotonia) later in infancy; and

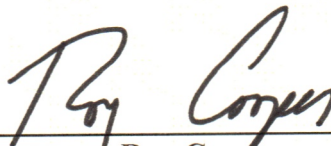
**WHEREAS**, unfortunately there is no cure for lissencephaly; treatment can be directed towards specific symptoms, particular to each individual, and may require a coordinated response by a team of specialists; and

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative to address the complex medical needs of those affected early in life to help families and loved ones successfully care for their children at home; institutions like the Lissencephaly Foundation Inc, a nonprofit charitable organization, exist to empower families and educate communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina recognizes the need for education, awareness, and support for those affected by lissencephaly and their families, and encourages organizations and medical providers to conduct further research into this complicated, and often devastating, condition;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 8, 2020, as “**LISSENCEPHALY AWARENESS DAY**” 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 August 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.