

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

REHABILITATION COUNSELORS APPRECIATION DAY

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, rehabilitation counselors across our state conduct assessments, provide counseling, support families, and plan and implement rehabilitation programs for individuals, increasing independence, self-sufficiency, employment, and active community participation for all North Carolinians; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of professional organizations for rehabilitation counseling and education is to improve the rehabilitation services available to individuals with disabilities through quality education for counselors and rehabilitation research; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 1983, the president of the National Council on Rehabilitation Education testified before the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Select Education and was instrumental in bringing the need for qualified rehabilitation counselors to the attention of the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of the National Council on Rehabilitation Education led to the enactment of laws that require rehabilitation counselors to have proper credentials, so they may provide a higher quality of service to those in need of rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, rehabilitation counselors play an important role in fulfilling the promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by supporting people with disabilities to achieve goals for employment and by promoting awareness and understanding of ADA provisions regarding equal opportunity and treatment in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services employs hundreds of rehabilitation counselors who are committed to increasing opportunities for competitive employment for people with disabilities and supporting the State of North Carolina's Employment First efforts to be a leader in creating an inclusive climate and recruiting workers with disabilities; and

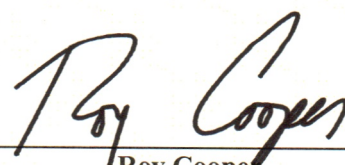
WHEREAS, North Carolina has several accredited graduate programs for rehabilitation counseling; according to the United States Bureau of Labor and Statistics, there are nearly 2,400 rehabilitation counselors in our state; and

WHEREAS, employment of rehabilitation counselors is projected to grow 13 percent from 2016 to 2026 along with the increase in the elderly population and with the continued rehabilitation needs of other groups, such as veterans and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, rehabilitation counselors and professional organizations should be commended for their hard work and dedication to individuals in need of rehabilitation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 22, 2020, as "**REHABILITATION COUNSELORS 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 nineteenth day of March 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.