



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**

**GOVERNOR**

## **SCHIZENCEPHALY AWARENESS DAY**

**2021**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

### **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, schizencephaly is an extremely rare congenital birth defect characterized by abnormal slits, or clefts, in the cerebral hemispheres of the brain; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Institutes of Health, it is estimated that schizencephaly affects roughly 1 in 65,000 births in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, signs and symptoms of schizencephaly may include seizures, intellectual disability, partial or complete paralysis, and developmental delay; and

**WHEREAS**, the exact cause of schizencephaly is not known, and therefore treatment and diagnosis can be difficult; and

**WHEREAS**, multiple organizations, including We Are R.A.R.E., exist to educate and raise awareness about schizencephaly as well as support families and individuals suffering from this challenging disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina encourages residents, organizations, and health professionals to come together in support of those affected by schizencephaly and commends those who continue to further research on this subject;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 19, 2021, as "**SCHIZENCEPHALY 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 twelfth day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.