



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH**

**2024**

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

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Asian Americans across the United States can trace their roots to more than 20 countries in East and Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, and the Pacific Islands, each with unique histories, cultures and languages; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has been home to members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities since the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, when the first Chinese immigrants began to settle in the state; and

**WHEREAS**, the efforts and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders can be seen across many aspects of society, including education, business, and science, playing a pivotal role in North Carolina's rich history; and

**WHEREAS**, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders account for nearly 6.4 percent of the American population and 4.1 percent of North Carolina's population, and are projected to continue increasing in size, making AAPI the fastest growing racial or ethnic group in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout history, Asian American and Pacific Islanders have faced adversity and used their strength and persistence to become leaders and trailblazers, including Kamala Harris, the first person of South Asian descent to serve as Vice President of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1977, a joint resolution was passed by the U.S. Congress directing the President to issue a proclamation designating the week beginning on May 4, 1979, as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1992, the U.S. Congress passed a law permanently designating May of each year as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina recognizes the paramount importance of actively promoting the understanding of, fostering appreciation for, and raising awareness of the rich and diverse cultures and history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders among its residents;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 2024, as "**ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE 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 thirtieth day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-eighth.