



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**BUCKLE UP PHONE DOWN DAY**

**2023**

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

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the safety and security of North Carolina residents is vitally important; and

**WHEREAS**, the total number of crashes caused by cell phone usage in North Carolina for 2022 was 1,263, with 11 of those being fatalities; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2022, 17.3 percent of the crashes in North Carolina involved a distracted driver; the data collected may not reflect the true severity of the issue due to driver distraction being self-reporting; and

**WHEREAS**, within the last five years, a total of 6,683 crashes have occurred, and of these crashes, a total of 31 have resulted in fatalities; and

**WHEREAS**, even the most attentive drivers are involved in a crash caused by other drivers; wearing a seat belt every time you enter a vehicle is your best defense against injury and death; and

**WHEREAS**, it is known that two of the best ways to prevent a serious vehicle crash is for everyone in the vehicle to buckle up and avoid talking on or using a phone while driving; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina encourages everyone to educate themselves of the dangers of driver distractions, and practice buckling up and putting the phone down;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 25, 2023, as “**BUCKLE UP PHONE DOWN 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 twenty-third day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-three and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-eighth.