



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**HEARING LOSS AWARENESS MONTH**

**2022**

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

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is home for nearly 660,000 veterans, who experience as much as 60 percent increased risk for hearing loss and tinnitus; and

**WHEREAS**, untreated hearing loss is associated with poorer overall health, including cardiovascular risk, cognitive decline, dementia, brain shrinkage, diabetes, balance disorders, and depression, and can lead socially engaged adults to become isolated and withdrawn as their hearing loss progresses; and

**WHEREAS**, hearing loss has become a critical public health care issue, and efforts should be made to screen and treat everyone for hearing loss as part of routine medical care; and

**WHEREAS**, identifying and treating hearing loss early can lower health risks, improve quality of life, and help reduce overall health care costs for all North Carolinians; and

**WHEREAS**, screening infants and children for hearing loss provides early access to language development, curricula, and resources, ensuring they can lead full and productive lives; and

**WHEREAS**, there are many services, supports, and resources that can enhance the lives of those with hearing loss in our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, statewide consumer advocacy groups, Early Hearing Detection and Intervention, the Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Hearing Loss Association of America and its North Carolina chapters all work to improve the lives of those with hearing loss; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that the use of hearing aids, cochlear implants, assistive listening devices, clear masks, and other technology can improve quality of life of those with hearing loss;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 2022, as “**HEARING LOSS AWARENESS MONTH**” 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 twenty-eighth day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-two and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.