

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

HINDU HERITAGE MONTH

AND

DIWALI

2022

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Hinduism is the third largest religion in the world with one billion devotees worldwide and four million in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Hindu heritage, culture, traditions, and values provide invaluable solutions to many of life's problems and often serve as a source of inspiration, reflection, and contemplation for the millions of individuals who look to the teachings of Hinduism for guidance; and

WHEREAS, our vibrant Hindu American community has contributed tremendously to the vitality of the state of North Carolina by enriching the lives of its people; and

WHEREAS, Diwali, a festival of historic and religious significance, is celebrated annually by millions of Hindu, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists throughout the United States and across the world; and

WHEREAS, Diwali is celebrated by Hindus as a day of thanksgiving for the homecoming of Lord Rama and the beginning of the new year; and

WHEREAS, during the month of October, the Hindu community across North Carolina, and across our great nation, will collectively celebrate its heritage by focusing on its culture and the diverse spiritual traditions rooted in India; and

WHEREAS, on behalf of the State of North Carolina, it is with immense pride and honor that I recognize the contributions of all Indian-Americans who are active in all aspects of our economy, history, and culture;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October, 2022, as "**HINDU HERITAGE MONTH**" and October 24, 2022, as "**DIWALI**" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

Roy Cooper

Governor

IN WITNESS WHERE DF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this fifth day of October 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-seventh.