

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE**

**2023**

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

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is home to people from all over the world who maintain connections to their cultural, linguistic, and religious heritage, including the Armenian American community; and

**WHEREAS**, although historically undercounted, data estimates that there are approximately 1.5 to 2 million Armenian Americans living in the United States, including in North Carolina; and

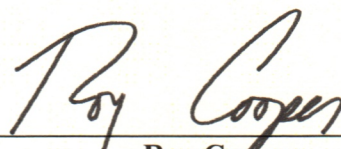
**WHEREAS**, it is beneficial to the rich cultural fabric of our state to recognize such groups and honor their struggles during pivotal moments in their collective history; and

**WHEREAS**, in Constantinople, on April 24, 1915, the Ottoman Empire began a campaign of extermination against the Armenian people, a minority group that had long suffered persecution; this brutal campaign resulted in the deaths of approximately one and a half million Armenian people, a genocide that Armenians refer to as Meds Yeghern, or Great Crime; and

**WHEREAS**, victims who survived the Armenian Genocide were forced to leave their homeland and find new homes and livelihoods all around the globe, including in the United States; in a demonstration of remarkable strength and resilience, Armenian immigrants overcame this great tragedy and to this day continue to flourish as a people; and

**WHEREAS**, on this day, let us remember tragedies like the Armenian Genocide, and let us strive every day to forge a world community free from the evils of bigotry and intolerance, where human rights are respected, and where all people can pursue their lives in dignity and security;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2023, as **“INTERNATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE”** 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-fourth day of April 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-seventh.