



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

2023

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Jewish American Heritage Month is a time to honor the significant religious, cultural, political, economic, athletic, intellectual, and philanthropic contributions Jewish Americans have made to our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, the first Jew in North Carolina was Joachim Ganz who arrived at Roanoke Island on Sir Walter Raleigh's second expedition in 1585, and the Jewish community in North Carolina has continued to grow over the subsequent centuries; and

WHEREAS, in 1809, Jacob Henry delivered a ringing endorsement of religious liberty when he defended his right as a Jew to serve in the state legislature; since then, our state has had multiple Jewish mayors, state legislators, jurists, agency leaders, and other elected officials and civil servants; and

WHEREAS, Jewish North Carolinians opened pioneering schools dedicated to educating women, worked tirelessly for women's suffrage, fought for social and racial justice, and continue to work for the civil betterment of all people in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Council on the Holocaust teaches us that combatting prejudice, indifference, and systemic bias can create a more tolerant society, and North Carolina's Jewish community continues to work with members of all faiths and backgrounds so that "never again shall any peoples suffer the evils of discrimination and racial or religious hatred;"

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 2023, as "**JEWISH AMERICAN 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 eleventh day of May 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.