



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL DAY

2023

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, quality afterschool programs provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help children realize their full potential, support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive when they are out of their classrooms, and engage families, schools, and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and

WHEREAS, quality afterschool programs build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders, and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families, and adults; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs continue to provide innovative hands-on opportunities for youth to reengage in their learning and connect with caring adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs have risen to the moment to help address youths' social and academic needs as they recover from the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, nearly 25 million families nationally report that they would enroll their child in an afterschool program if one were available; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing afterschool programs and other expanded learning opportunities that help our children learn and grow, while helping them develop the skills essential for success in life and work; and

WHEREAS, Lights On After School, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 26, 2023, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families, and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 26, 2023, as "**LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL 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-fourth 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.