

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

TAMIL LANGUAGE AND CULTURE MONTH

2023

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Tamil community of North Carolina has made significant contributions to our state's diverse culture and population, including preserving and promoting the rich heritage of the Tamil language; and

WHEREAS, member of North Carolina's Tamil community are dedicated to preserving Tamil culture, in part through language schools designed to educate young people and preserve Tamil language for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the Tamil language is widely spoken in India, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and many communities throughout our nation and world; this language is central to Tamil identity, and is recognized as one of the world's longest-surviving written and spoken languages; and

WHEREAS, Tamil is one of the oldest languages in the world, traceable through excavated archeological sites of Keezhadi, Porunai, and Mayiladumparai civilizations estimated to be over 4,000 years old; and

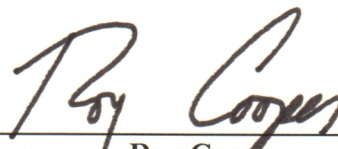
WHEREAS, Tamil tradition, language, and heritage have impacted many aspects of the economic, social, and cultural history of our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, during January, members of the Tamil community celebrate Thai Pongal, a four-day harvest festival that coincides with the first day of the month *Thai* in the Tamil calendar; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina joins in celebrating Thai Pongal and in recognizing the Tamil community for their ongoing contributions to our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim January, 2023, as "**TAMIL LANGUAGE AND CULTURE 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 fifth day of January 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.