

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**WORLD ARTHRITIS DAY**

**2023**

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

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, arthritis is a condition characterized by the swelling of one or more joints, causing pain and stiffness; and

**WHEREAS**, there are a disproportionately high number of individuals affected by arthritis in North Carolina compared to other states, due in part to our older and more rural populations; and

**WHEREAS**, arthritis is estimated to affect over 2 million residents across our state; women in particular have a higher age-adjusted prevalence of arthritis, according to a report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, the prevalence of arthritis is exponential and increases with age; and

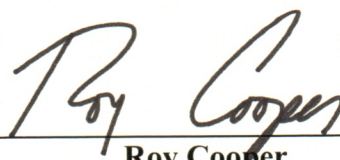
**WHEREAS**, individuals with diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and obesity can be disproportionately affected by arthritis; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals with arthritis are often less active and struggle with disease-specific barriers to being physically active, such as episodic pain and fear of exacerbating their condition; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina acknowledges the daily pain of those living with arthritis, and encourages residents, organizations, and medical professionals across our state to continue supporting the growing community of individuals affected by this devastating condition;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 12, 2023, as “**WORLD ARTHRITIS 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 twelfth 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.