



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY**

**2022**

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

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina values its growing, diverse population of older adults and the importance of communities in supporting quality of life for all residents; and

**WHEREAS**, protecting North Carolina's vulnerable and older adults is a community responsibility and all citizens are charged under state law to report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation to their local county Department of Social Services; and

**WHEREAS**, in State Fiscal Year 2020-2021 there were 32,075 reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable and older adults made to North Carolina's county Departments of Social Services; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina's population is living longer, our state ranks ninth nationally in the number of people aged 65 and over, and by 2025 one in five North Carolina residents will be older than 65; and

**WHEREAS**, older adults experienced tremendous loss and obstacles created by the pandemic, and the isolation experienced by older adults without adequate supports made them more susceptible to abuse, neglect, and exploitation; and

**WHEREAS**, fostering, maintaining, and improving supports to prevent abuse allows vulnerable and older adults to exercise their autonomy and ability to live in the setting of their choice; and

**WHEREAS**, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day provides a time for North Carolinians to pause and reflect on those who are susceptible to maltreatment, reminding us to promote a better understanding of the causes of this often unseen and unreported public health and civil rights issue, and to make sure we remain focused on the needs of our elder residents to lead lives of dignity and purpose;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER**, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2022, as **"WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY"** in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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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 ninth day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-two and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.