State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY DAY OF AZERBAIJANIS

2021

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Azerbaijani people established the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic on May 28, 1928, which became the first secular democracy in the entire Muslim world; and

WHEREAS, the new democracy enacted many progressive reforms, including granting women the right to vote in 1919, which made Azerbaijan not only the first majority-Muslim nation to empower women, but it also put the country ahead of many advanced nations of the time in championing women's rights; and

WHEREAS, since 1991, the Republic of Azerbaijan has consolidated its freedom and independence, has become one of the world's fastest developing and modernizing countries, the largest economy of the region, and the biggest United States trade partner in the South Caucasus; and

WHEREAS, Azerbaijan has a long-standing tradition of peaceful co-existence and interfaith harmony among Muslims, Christians and Jews; and

WHEREAS, the Azerbaijani community in North Carolina actively contributes to cultural diversity, richness and economic prosperity in our State; and

WHEREAS, December 31st of every year is celebrated as the Solidarity Day of Azerbaijanis by around 50 million Azerbaijanis around the world, including many in the State of North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim December 31, 2021, as **"INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY DAY OF AZERBAIJANIS"** 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 twentieth day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.