



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**COCHLEAR IMPLANT DAY**

**2022**

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

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization's World Report on Hearing states that hearing loss, without timely and appropriate intervention, can negatively impact many aspects of life, including communication, the development of language and speech in children, cognition, education, employment, mental health, and interpersonal relationships; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that 6.6 million (2.5%) Americans aged 12 years or older have severe to profound hearing loss in at least one ear; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that 1 to 3 per 1,000 children are born with hearing loss at birth; and

**WHEREAS**, cochlear implants are considered one of the most successful of all neural prostheses developed to date and, with appropriate supports such as aural rehabilitation, effective communication practices, and/or sign language, can be effective for people with severe to profound sensorineural hearing loss who experience limited benefits from hearing aids and are good candidates for cochlear implants; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the American Cochlear Implant Alliance, cochlear implants have been provided for approximately 6% of US adults and 50% of children who are candidates for cochlear implantation; and

**WHEREAS**, when families choose cochlear implantation for their young children, research indicates that, with an array of appropriate follow-up supports, they are able to acquire spoken language and speech skills with those implanted prior to twelve months of age demonstrating age-appropriate spoken language when they begin kindergarten; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services reports that over 1.2 million North Carolinians ages 18 and older have hearing loss; and

**WHEREAS**, we can work together to improve awareness and accessibility of effective hearing healthcare services for children and adults with moderate to profound hearing loss in the state of North Carolina;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 25, 2022, as "COCHLEAR IMPLANT 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 twenty-fourth day of February 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.