

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

2019

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, human trafficking is the exploitative buying and selling of human beings for labor and sex acts, violating the most basic human rights and depriving victims of their dignity and freedom; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is the second-most lucrative illicit industry in the world, and North Carolina is believed to have one of the top-ten highest rates of human trafficking in the United States; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking can happen to anyone in North Carolina including women, men, and children across all demographic lines, regardless of race, gender, age, immigration status, and socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, children are among the most vulnerable to human trafficking, particularly those with a history of sexual, emotional, or physical abuse; children struggling with learning disabilities, substance abuse issues, or sexual identity; children who have experienced the loss of a parent through death, divorce, abandonment, or incarceration; and children who have been, are, or will be involved in the child welfare system; and


WHEREAS, human trafficking is a public safety issue, a public health issue, and a human rights issue, requiring a collaborative, multi-disciplinary response involving the skills, expertise, and resources of every individual and agency in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission, the North Carolina Department of Justice, and many skilled and dedicated stakeholders statewide are committed to combatting human trafficking to ensure the freedom of all people and help our communities flourish; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina recognizes the strength and resilience of individuals in our communities who have survived human trafficking and encourages people to raise awareness, promote education, and support initiatives to address human trafficking as a social justice issue;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim January, 2019, as "**HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS 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 third day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand and nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.