



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Black History Month is a time to celebrate the contributions of African Americans who have shaped the history of our state and nation; we are reminded of our responsibility to respect and preserve this lasting heritage and culture; and

WHEREAS, countless African American activists, military and political leaders, academicians, and artists have helped develop North Carolina's heritage and cultural landscape; their work and accomplishments are commemorated by museums, historical sites, and annual festivals across our state; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to the largest number of four-year, degree-granting Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) in the nation; our eleven HBCUs have a rich heritage steeped in tradition, activism, and service dating back to the foundation of Shaw University in 1865; and

WHEREAS, African American military service has deep roots in our state; the 1st North Carolina Colored Volunteers regiment joined the Union Army in 1863, and the first African American recruits to serve in the United States Marine Corps were trained at Montford Point in Camp Lejeune; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960s, African American activists in North Carolina launched the nation's Sit-In Movement in Greensboro and assembled the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in Raleigh; in our rural Eastern and Western regions, activists led the Edenton Movement demonstrations and organized the Asheville Student Committee on Racial Equality; and

WHEREAS, many African American artists, musicians, writers, and innovators have called North Carolina home; whether folk or classically trained, each of these artists' work commemorates a facet of African American heritage throughout our history; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina has designated February 2018 as *Black History Month: Preserving African American Heritage and Culture*; we commend the individuals, organizations, and agencies working to preserve African American heritage and culture for the benefit of all North Carolinians today and for generations to come;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim February, 2018, as "**BLACK HISTORY 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 first day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.