



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

CENTENNIAL OF THE END OF WORLD WAR I

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, World War I, also known as The Great War, began on June 28, 1914, with the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and the fighting ceased with the signing of the armistice on November 11, 1918; and

WHEREAS, the United States entered the European conflict in April 1917, and North Carolinians, led by Governor Thomas Walter Bickett, quickly rallied around the flag and prepared for war; and

WHEREAS, the greatest concentration of North Carolinians who served were part of the 30th Division, nicknamed the Old Hickory Division, and the 81st Division, known as the Wildcats; and

WHEREAS, the United States entered World War I to defend the principles of liberty and democracy, and in the summer and fall of 1918, American troops played a pivotal role in helping to drive back the German army in several long and bloody battles; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina sent 86,457 soldiers overseas to fight, and the state lost 833 men in combat and an estimated more than 1,500 to disease, and saw 3,655 wounded in battle; and

WHEREAS, in November 2018, the world will commemorate the centennial of the armistice pact that ended the fighting, with the nationwide observance of Bells of Peace: A World War I Remembrance Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2018, as the “**CENTENNIAL OF THE END OF WORLD WAR I**” in North Carolina, and call upon citizens across the state to toll bells—at schools, in parks, at churches, in backyards—at 11:00 AM on November 11, 2018, to remember those who answered the call of duty.





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 fifth day of November 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.