

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

LGBTQ PRIDE MONTH

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month is celebrated nationwide each year in the month of June; and

WHEREAS, this month was chosen to commemorate the riots that took place 51 years ago at the Stonewall Inn in Manhattan, New York, the morning of June 28, 1969, often viewed as the birth of the modern LGBTQ rights movement; and

WHEREAS, it is important to take time during this month to reflect on the LGBTQ rights movement and the important progress that has been made; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 1974, Kathy Kozachenko became the first openly LGBTQ American elected to any public office when she won a seat on the Ann Arbor, Michigan City Council; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that several major United States Supreme Court decisions impacting LGBTQ rights in a positive way have been announced in June, including *Lawrence v. Texas*, 539 U.S. 558 (2003), which struck down sodomy laws; *U.S. v. Windsor*, 570 U.S. 744 (2013), which struck down the federal Defense of Marriage Act; *Obergefell v. Hodges*, 135 S. Ct. 2584 (2015), which affirmed the right of same-sex couples to marry; and *Pavan v. Smith* 137 S. Ct. 2075 (2017), which held that both mothers of a child had the legal right to be listed on their child's birth certificate; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina stands with the LGBTQ community in the struggle to ensure equal treatment for all, and to defend and advocate for LGBT rights as human rights; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 24, 32 N.C. Reg. 958-962, which was issued on October 18, 2017, established policies prohibiting discrimination, harassment, and retaliation on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression in state employment, state services, and state contracts under the jurisdiction of the Office of the Governor; and

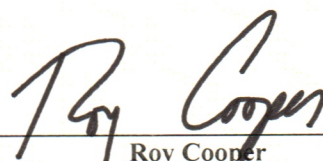
WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 24 directed the Secretary of the Department of Administration to create the Commission on Inclusion to identify additional policies and measures that promote diversity and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, despite this extraordinary progress, LGBTQ Americans still face discrimination simply for being who they are; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina will continue to advocate for statewide protections for all LGBTQ individuals to make our state a place where all people - regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression - are treated with dignity and respect;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June, 2020, as "LGBTQ PRIDE 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 twenty-eighth day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fourth.