



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT DAY

2019

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990, establishing a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination to ensure the civil rights of people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the ADA has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers, changing perceptions and increasing opportunities for full participation and inclusion in community life; and

WHEREAS, continued commitment to the principles of the ADA is necessary to help individuals with disabilities reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, as of 2017, more than 1.3 million people in North Carolina over the age of five live with a form of disability, accounting for more than 13 percent of the state's population; and

WHEREAS, more than 720,000 of these individuals are of working age, but only 35 percent are employed – a stark contrast to the nearly 76 percent of North Carolinians of working age without disabilities who are employed; and

WHEREAS, this lack of employment among people with disabilities led North Carolina to establish Executive Order No. 92, Employment First for North Carolinians with Disabilities, earlier this year; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2017 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, the median annual earnings of civilian North Carolinians without disabilities is more than \$10,000 greater than those with a disability, contributing to the nearly 14 percent poverty gap between those with and without disabilities in our state; and

WHEREAS, on July 26, 2019, North Carolina commemorates the 29th anniversary of the ADA, recognizing and celebrating the progress that has been made; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages people to reaffirm the principles of equality and inclusion laid out in the ADA, and recommit our efforts to reach full ADA compliance so that every person in our state has the opportunity to succeed;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim July 26, 2019, as “**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT DAY**” 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 sixteenth day of July 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-third.