

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

2023

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina values the wisdom, experience, and contributions of older Americans and their passion for providing enhanced opportunities for future generations; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina continues to be recognized as one of the best states to retire in, and ranks 8th in the number of people aged 65 and older, with one in six North Carolinians aged 65 or older; by 2028, one in five North Carolinians will be 65 or older, and in 20 years, the 65 and older population is projected to increase from 1.7 to 2.7 million people; and

WHEREAS, May is recognized as Older Americans Month, and the United States Administration for Community Living has designated the 2023 theme as *Aging Unbound* to offer opportunities to explore diverse aging experiences and discuss how communities can combat stereotypes; and

WHEREAS, older adults in North Carolina are a diverse group involved in every aspect of society, including the workforce, the educational system, and civic and political engagement; 14 percent of employees in State of North Carolina agencies and universities are age 60 and older; and

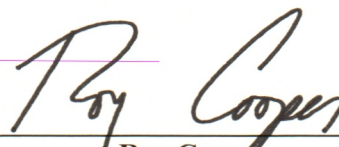
WHEREAS, ageism, an oppressive form of inequity, is identified as prejudice and discrimination toward others based on age; ageism can have a negative impact on physical and mental health, and can be reduced or eliminated through policies, laws, and educational activities; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging and the Senior Tar Heel Legislature promote awareness of issues surrounding aging and advocate for older adults; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina is committed to building an age-friendly state through a renewed focus on the needs of our rapidly aging population and through cooperative efforts that foster livable communities and improve services and supports;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 2023, as **"OLDER AMERICANS 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 second day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-three and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-seventh.