

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

IN RECOGNITION OF

THE 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN

2023

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on October 11, 1963, Governor Terry Sanford issued Executive Order 4, establishing the 20-member Commission on the Status of Women; this Commission was reestablished statutorily by the NC General Assembly in 1965 and the name was changed to the Council for Women in 1991; and

WHEREAS, the Council's mission is to "advocate for and empower women, to amplify the voices of women, and to drive policies that promote education, safety, health, and social and economic justice for the women of North Carolina"; and

WHEREAS, women make up more than 51 percent of North Carolina's population and "the full realization of the rights and potentials of women" continues to be as vital to the advancement of the state as it was in 1963; and

WHEREAS, over the past 60 years, the Council has provided 10 governors, numerous principal state agencies, and the General Assembly with expertise on many women's issues, including but not limited to violence against women and their families; and

WHEREAS, from 2018 to 2022, the Council issued critical reports on the Status of Women in North Carolina, highlighting the state's C and D grades in the areas of education and employment, health and wellness, political participation, poverty, and opportunity despite making great strides; during the height of the pandemic, the Council also released the COVID-19 Impact on Women in North Carolina Report, outlining the disproportionate gendered and racial toll of the pandemic on women and families across the state; and

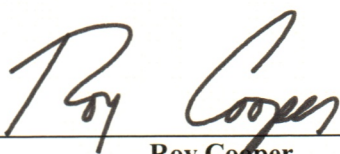
WHEREAS, in the past year, the state has experienced dramatic rollbacks on the rights of women in all their diversity, making the work of the Council even more urgent and important for the future of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, October 11, 2023, marks the 60th anniversary of the North Carolina Council for Women, an important milestone in the evolution of the group, and offers an opportunity to celebrate women of every race, socio-economic status, ability, sexual orientation, gender expression, and ethnic background, recognizing their contributions to the economic and cultural fabric of North Carolina in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

WHEREAS, there remains much work to be done to realize the Council's vision of North Carolina being a state where women thrive, racial and gender justice prevail, and women's quality of life ranks at the highest levels;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 11, 2023, as a day "**IN RECOGNITION OF THE 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN**" 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 twelfth day of October 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-eighth.