



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

**2018**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in North Carolina and the United States; it is estimated that 4,698 people in North Carolina will be diagnosed and 1,712 will die from colorectal cancer in 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, colorectal cancer can be detected early at a curable stage, and it can be prevented through the finding and removal of precancerous polyps; therefore, it is critical that individuals discuss family medical history with your doctor, get screened when recommended by your doctor, and maintain a healthy lifestyle to decrease your risk of colorectal cancer and increase survivorship rates; and

**WHEREAS**, colorectal cancer affects men and women in North Carolina of all racial and ethnic groups; the risk for developing colorectal cancer increases as one ages, especially at or after the age of 50; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable has established a pledge for 80 percent of Americans ages 50 and older to be screened by 2018; in 2016, only 72 percent of men and 76.3 percent of women in North Carolina indicated that they had completed a colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy; and

**WHEREAS**, the cumulative relative five-year survival rate for patients diagnosed with colorectal cancer in North Carolina between 2010 – 2014 is 62.9 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, because colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable, and beatable, greater screening awareness could save lives; and

**WHEREAS**, Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month is an opportunity for organizations and health practitioners in North Carolina to promote awareness of screening, increase access to screenings, and advocate for those who are affected by colorectal cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina encourages our communities to support individuals and their families with colorectal cancer during treatment, care, and survivorship, and remember the loved ones we have lost to this disease;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March, 2018, as “**COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS 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-sixth day of February 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.