

State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH

2007

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, 99,551 American Indians live in North Carolina, according to Census 2000, giving the state the largest American Indian population east of the Mississippi and the eighth largest American Indian population in the country; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to eight American Indian tribes: the Coharie, the Eastern Band of Cherokee, the Haliwa-Saponi, the Lumbee, the Meherrin, the Occaneechi Band of Saponi, the Sappony, and the Waccamaw-Siouan; and

WHEREAS, American Indians continue an inherently great respect for the land which we live upon and indeed were the first environmentalists – living in harmony with the natural environment and taking no more from its resources than they needed to survive; and

WHEREAS, American Indian culture and society are at the roots of agricultural development, medicinal discoveries, environmental preservation, commerce, governmental institutions and structure, and many other facets of the Tar Heel State and the Nation; and

WHEREAS, across the state American Indians continue to celebrate American Indian culture and heritage through songs, dances, arts, crafts, and traditional spirituality; and the traditions of their ancestors continue to be the foundation for the contemporary lifestyles of today's American Indian citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2007, as "AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH" in North Carolina and urge our citizens to recognize and celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by the native inhabitants of North Carolina.



Michael F. Easley
MICHAEL F. EASLEY

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 fifteenth day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.