GIS DAY
2002

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, geography has played a defining role in the settlement, history and cultural heritage of the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, an understanding of geographical concepts is crucial to maintain a balance between the wise use of the State's natural resources, continued economic prosperity, and the general well-being of the State's citizens; and

WHEREAS, computerized Geographic Information System (GIS) technology provides a more efficient and effective means for managing geographic information as compared with traditional cartographic methods; and

WHEREAS, extensive efforts are underway in various public and private agencies and organizations throughout the United States and the world to develop, incorporate and utilize GIS technology; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to coordinate these efforts to minimize duplication, reduce costs, develop standards, and to facilitate the sharing and interchange of GIS data, methods and knowledge among entities developing GIS technologies and databases; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to promote GIS awareness to primary and secondary schools, and encourage use of this technology for problem-solving throughout the curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the global GIS community has joined to declare November 20, 2002, as GIS Day 2002;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 20, 2002, as "GIS DAY" in North Carolina, and urge our citizens to commend this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the City of Raleigh, this eighteenth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

MICHAEL F. EASLEY