**COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK**

**WHEREAS:**  Composting is an effective form of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling, and as organic materials comprise approximately 30 percent of materials going to landfills, composting is becoming one of the primary methods for communities to reach waste reduction goals; and

**WHEREAS**: Composting is a way of returning organic resources to soil to conserve water during extreme droughts or abating flooding conditions, thereby reducing water consumption and non-point pollution, decreasing erosion, and replenishing soils to grow healthy foods; and

**WHEREAS:** Composting is an easy way for communities to better the world around them, and its growth in the State of Georgia will lead to more economic impact and opportunity; and

**WHEREAS:** Georgia’s compost processing infrastructure is growing at the community scale and large-scale manufacturing levels, creating jobs, and expanding infrastructure for cities, counties and businesses looking to divert organic material to a higher beneficial use; and

**WHEREAS:** The US Compost Research and Education Foundation has declared May 5-11, 2024 as International Compost Awareness Week to be facilitated locally by the Georgia Composting Council, the Georgia Recycling Coalition, and SWANA Georgia Chapter supporting local efforts to improve awareness and accessibility of compost resources; now

**THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 5-11, 2024, as COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 1st day of April in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.