



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP MONTH

WHEREAS: Employee Stock Ownership Plans (ESOPs) have been established in approximately 11,500 companies in the United States, employing over 10 million working men and women; and

WHEREAS: Employee ownership is increasingly becoming a practice that is instrumental in helping Americans share in our nation's economic growth and achieve greater prosperity by signifying access to capital stock in the business at which they are employed; and

WHEREAS: Employee ownership has become a powerful incentive for Americans to make the best of their talents and energies in their places of work, thus strengthening the competitive potential of our state's businesses; and

WHEREAS: Employee ownership is an integral part in creating and retaining jobs in Georgia; and

WHEREAS: The successful record of employee-owned firms in benefiting both companies and employees merits recognition; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 2011, as EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP MONTH in Georgia with October 13 as EMPLOYEE-OWNER DAY and encourage our citizens to learn more about ESOPs and to contribute toward creating and retaining jobs in our state.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*C. W. Iz*

CHIEF OF STAFF