



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION CESAREAN AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: The National Center for Health Statistics has reported that the cesarean section rate in the U.S. has hit an all-time high of 32.9 percent, and the cesarean section rate remains at an alarmingly higher rate than the 15 percent average recommended by the World Health Organization where WHO estimates that half (50 percent) of all cesarean sections performed in the United States are unnecessary; and

WHEREAS: This rate increase coincides with the Centers for Disease Control report that the maternal death rate is rising for the first time in decades as well as the World Health Organization's data showing that mothers die at a higher rate in the U.S. than 40 other countries; and

WHEREAS: Approximately 49,500 women in Georgia will give birth by cesarean section each year; and

WHEREAS: When a cesarean is necessary, it can be a lifesaving technique for both mother and baby and worth the risks involved, yet research shows cesarean surgery carries twice the risk of injury and death for both mother and baby if surgery is not necessary. Women with cesarean experience also double the rate of hysterectomy, blood transfusion, admission to intensive care, prolonged hospital stay and death, compared to mothers who delivered vaginally; babies born by cesarean are 45 percent more likely to be in the neonatal intensive care unit for seven days and 41 to 82 percent more likely to die than babies born vaginally; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2011 as CESAREAN AWARENESS MONTH 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 eleven.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

C. E. ...

CHIEF OF STAFF