



STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0900

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

September 1, 2011

The Honorable Butch Otter
Office of the Governor
State Capitol
Boise, Idaho 83720

Dear Governor Otter,

While Sandra and I regret that you and the First Lady were unable to attend this weekend's festivities here in Georgia, we are pleased to host Idaho's most esteemed football team – the Boise State Broncos. It would have been a great time to renew the friendship built during our tenure together on the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee. With a huge national audience and a primetime billing, this game certainly figures to be one for the ages. In fact, it reminds us of the last time the Broncos came over to Athens. I don't remember all of the details from the 2005 contest, but I believe the final score was Georgia 48, Boise State 13. Needless to say, Sandra and I are confident we will be cheering for the winning team in this rematch.

Also, I am writing on behalf of proud Georgians around our great state to formally accept the "barbecue throwdown" challenge you have issued. While Georgians have a healthy respect for all things Idaho, including Idaho cuisine, we are excited for Gem Staters to try some of Georgia's best barbecue, Fox Brothers-style.

When we win the blind taste test on Saturday, I will accept some of Idaho's famous potatoes as payment. I am so confident that our barbecue will win, that I am making a wager that some would see as reckless – promising to send Georgia's prized peaches your way should we lose.

I wish you all the best. If you have any questions, please contact my assistant, Carrie Ashbee, at (404) 651-7789.

Good luck,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathan Deal".

Nathan Deal
Governor of Georgia