



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

**A PROCLAMATION
BLINDNESS AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS: All over the world, individuals experience vision loss and impairment. Over 30 million people are blind and 124 million are severely visually impaired; and

WHEREAS: A majority of visually impaired adults in the United States are over 65 years of age, and over 15 million Americans age 40 and older are afflicted with cataracts; the leading cause of blindness in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS: The prevalence of blindness increases rapidly in later years, particularly after the age of 75. The number of Americans with age-related eye disease is expected to grow considerably unless preventative measures are taken; and

WHEREAS: It is important to regularly consult an eyecare professional in order to be well-educated on causes of blindness and ways to prevent and treat this condition, as well as other serious visual impairments; and

WHEREAS: October is Blindness Awareness Month, and citizens around the state should raise their awareness on this condition and ways to prevent it; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 2012, as BLINDNESS 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 31st day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Ch. R.

CHIEF OF STAFF