



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Brain injury is recognized as a serious national public health epidemic, as stated by the Center for Disease Control; and

WHEREAS: Currently as many as 5.3 million people nationwide live with long-term disabilities related to a brain injury, often resulting in a lifetime of physical, cognitive, and behavior problems; and

WHEREAS: Each year in the United States, sports and recreation-related traumatic brain injuries, including concussions, among children, adolescents and adults have increased. Thousands of military members have been diagnosed with cases of brain injury upon returning from combat; and

WHEREAS: Because of a lack of awareness about brain injury and the difficulty of diagnosing the condition as well as its unique needs, many persons with brain injury live for years without recognizing or dealing with their injuries; and

WHEREAS: The Brain Injury Association of Georgia offers education, resources, and support to individuals with brain injury, veterans, and their families, helping with community integration and resources so that they may live as independently as possible; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 2016, as BRAIN INJURY 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 16<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF