



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

**A PROCLAMATION  
COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS  
MONTH**

WHEREAS: Despite being one of the most preventable, treatable, and beatable forms of cancer when detected early, colorectal cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed cancers and the second most common type attributed to cancer deaths for men and women in the United States; and

WHEREAS: Among African-Americans, incidence rates are more than 20 percent higher and mortality rates are nearly 40 percent higher than for Caucasians. African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, American Indians, and Alaskan Natives are significantly less likely to be screened for colorectal cancer; and

WHEREAS: The majority of colorectal deaths can be prevented through proper screening and early detection. The survival rate of individuals who have colorectal cancer is 90 percent when detected in the early stages versus only a 10 percent survival rate when it is diagnosed after it has metastasized; and

WHEREAS: Regular colorectal cancer screening has been ranked as one of the most cost effective screening interventions available, with the potential to save 40,000 lives a year; and

WHEREAS: By raising awareness of colorectal cancer, we can considerably increase the success rate of colorectal cancer treatment; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the state of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 2012, as COLORECTAL CANCER 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 5<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Cl. W. Iz.*

CHIEF OF STAFF