



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

FABRY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Fabry disease is a rare, progressive, and life-threatening genetic disorder. This disease can lead to an array of burdening symptoms including pain, decreased ability to perspire, unexplained fevers, and gastrointestinal upset. These symptoms often progress to life-altering conditions including hearing loss, lung disease, kidney disease, cerebrovascular disease, heart attacks, strokes, and kidney failures; and

WHEREAS: Fabry disease is caused by deficient activity of the lysosomal enzyme alpha-galactosidase A that causes an insufficient breakdown of lipids. Lipids build up to harmful levels in the body causing lysosomal and cellular dysfunction; and

WHEREAS: Fabry disease is often under-recognized and misdiagnosed. When diagnosed, it is often too late after irreversible organ damage has already occurred. Increased physician and family education are critical to increase disease recognition; and

WHEREAS: The current estimate of Fabry disease incidences in the United States is one in 50,000 males and an even higher percentage of females. Recent newborn screening studies in other countries suggest there are likely to be 20 times as many males with late-onset Fabry disease in the United States; and

WHEREAS: Enzyme assay test for males and molecular DNA tests for females can test for Fabry disease. It is vital that awareness is raised to fight this tragic but treatable disorder; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2012, as FABRY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia and urge our citizens to learn more about this terrible disease.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 2nd day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Cl. W. Z.

CHIEF OF STAFF