



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION LUPUS AWARENESS DAY

- WHEREAS: Lupus is a disabling and sometimes fatal immune system disorder that affects the skin, joints and one or more internal organs in varying combinations. The immune system, which normally protects the body, attacks its own healthy cells; and
- WHEREAS: Every year 50,000 men, women and children are diagnosed with lupus, which causes 3,000 annual deaths. Many of these patients are young women; and
- WHEREAS: Although lupus is widespread and affects many individuals, there is a strong need to focus awareness and understanding of a disease with which most Americans are not familiar; and
- WHEREAS: For many people with lupus, effective treatment can minimize symptoms, reduce inflammation and maintain normal body functions; and
- WHEREAS: It is important to educate and support individuals suffering with lupus, and we are working to help raise public awareness of this significant health issue; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 13, 2013 as LUPUS AWARENESS DAY in Georgia and encourage our citizens to become knowledgeable about lupus and its effects on the human body.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Cl. W. R.*

CHIEF OF STAFF