



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

SJS/TENS AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Stevens Johnson Syndrome (SJS) and Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis (TENS) are two categories of a life-threatening skin condition in which the loss of skin cells triggers the epidermis to separate from the dermis. The majority of diagnoses are idiopathic and have no known cause; and

WHEREAS: The principal source of SJS and TENS is linked to the adverse effects of certain medications which can cause ulcers and lesions in the mucus membranes, conjunctivitis, blindness, organ failure, and death; and

WHEREAS: In the United States, 300 new cases of SJS appear every year. Adult women are twice as likely as men to contract the disease; and

WHEREAS: SJS and TENS can be caused by viral infections, malignancies, and allergic reactions to certain over-the-counter drugs; however, recent trends show antibiotics and sulfa drugs appear to be the leading cause in new cases; and

WHEREAS: It is important to be aware of and research the causes of Stevens Johnson Syndrome and Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis because the dermatological disease can often be misdiagnosed as a more common, less fatal skin infection; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 2012 as SJS/TENS 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 23rd day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

C. R.

CHIEF OF STAFF