BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Neuromyelitis optica (NMO) is a rare disease that only affects approximately 4,000 American citizens; and

WHEREAS: NMO attacks healthy cells in the central nervous system, which can lead to lifelong disabilities, including permanent blindness and paralysis; and

WHEREAS: There is currently no cure for NMO, and there is only one FDA-approved treatment for the disease. The cause for NMO is still a mystery to scientists and doctors; and

WHEREAS: NMO can easily be mistaken for other ailments. When given the wrong treatment, symptoms can worsen; and

WHEREAS: As awareness of NMO has increased, doctors have become more effective at diagnosing the disease; and

WHEREAS: The NMO community is dedicated to increasing awareness about this disease in order to promote research, improve patient care and outcomes, and to ultimately find a cure for this disease, now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 2020 NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA 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 14th day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty.

[Signature]
GOVERNOR

[Signature]
CHIEF OF STAFF