



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Autism spectrum disorders are a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, and speech and nonverbal communications; and
- WHEREAS:** Symptoms and characteristics of autism spectrum disorders may present themselves in a variety of combinations and can result in significant lifelong difficulties in verbal and nonverbal communication, social interaction, and leisure activities; and
- WHEREAS:** An autism spectrum disorder has wide-ranging implications for the entire family of the diagnosed individual. Early diagnosis, research, training, education, and therapy are vital to reducing the negative effects of the disorder; and
- WHEREAS:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that about 1 in 54 children have been identified with autism spectrum disorder; and
- WHEREAS:** Autism spectrum disorders are complex and require research to find cures and effective methods of prevention. Increased recognition and understanding of autism are necessary to ensure that individuals are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated throughout their lives; and
- WHEREAS:** It is in the interest of the State of Georgia to recognize achievements in this field and to continue these efforts by promoting awareness, care, services, and opportunities for individuals affected by autism so they may achieve their greatest potential; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2021 as AUTISM 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 22nd day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.




GOVERNOR

ATTEST


CHIEF OF STAFF