BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS: Bullying has been taken to a new step with the rise of social media. Cyberbullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that can occur through SMS, text, and apps, or online in social media that is used to share content; and

WHEREAS: Cyberbullying can take place in any situation, 24/7 with the use of the Internet to share hateful and hurtful messages. These conditions can lead to anxiety, depression, and even suicide in youth; and

WHEREAS: Bullying affects 1 in 3 youth, but unfortunately only 1 in 10 teens tell an adult if they have been a victim of cyberbullying. Once things are circulated on the Internet, they may never disappear, resurfacing at later times to renew the pain of cyberbullying. Some cyberbullying cases cross the line into unlawful or criminal behavior; and

WHEREAS: Children and teens who are victims of cyberbullying may avoid technological devices, withdraw from family and friends, and experience a decline in academic performance. Victims may also appear reluctant to attend school or social events and engage in poor eating or sleeping habits; and

WHEREAS: Some cyberbullying cases cross the line into unlawful or criminal behavior, and are therefore punishable by law; and

WHEREAS: Many youths do not know how to deal with bullies who hide behind their screen, unsure of who to talk to or how to report incidents; and

WHEREAS: During Cyberbullying Prevention & Awareness Week, students, teachers, parents, and community members can take part in activities that will bring awareness and offer solutions to cyberbullying, in order to eliminate violence and create a safe environment for all Georgia’s children to live, learn, and grow; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim November 29 - December 3, 2021 as CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have heretofore set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 27th day of October in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.

[Signature]
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

[Signature]
CHIEF OF STAFF