



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY

**WHEREAS:** Quality afterschool programs provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help children realize their full potential, support working families by ensuring their children are in a safe environment, build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders, and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults; and

**WHEREAS:** During the COVID-19 pandemic, afterschool programs have risen to the moment to support youth and provide critical support to help youth recover from this challenging time and address their academic, social, and mental health needs. Afterschool programs provide engaging, hands-on learning and opportunities to connect with caring adults and peers. During the pandemic, programs have innovated to provide remote learning support, virtual programming, care for children of essential workers, meal support, wellness check-ins, and more; and

**WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults; and

**WHEREAS:** Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 28, 2021, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families, and communities; and

**WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia is committed to promoting the health and safety of all young people by supporting expanded learning opportunities that help our children learn and grow, while helping them develop the skills essential for success in life and work; now

**THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 28, 2021 as LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



*B. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*M. Kilpatrick*

CHIEF OF STAFF