



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Rett syndrome is a postnatal genetic neurological disorder that occurs primarily in females and rarely in males. Symptoms in children usually do not appear until 6 to 18 months, and a regression period leads to lifelong impairments with multiple dysfunctions: speech is lost, seizures can develop, scoliosis occurs, many develop irregular breathing patterns, and more than half of the people with Rett syndrome lose their ability to walk. The hallmark sign of Rett syndrome is near constant repetitive hand movements while awake; and

WHEREAS: Those diagnosed with Rett syndrome require maximum assistance with daily living activities. The disorder is not degenerative though, and biomedical research suggests that neurological symptoms may be reversed even after decades of severe symptoms; and

WHEREAS: With the discovery of the gene that causes Rett syndrome, research in the lab that proves the theory of reversibility of the disease, the discovery of breakthrough testing in vitro models, and the launch of multiple disease-modifying human clinical trials, we have now reached an unprecedented and historic moment in time where we must do everything possible to fund the truly life-changing research in front of us; and

WHEREAS: Efforts must continue in bringing awareness to the medical community, therapists, teachers, caregivers, and the general public as well, and it is important for funding to be available for researchers who are dedicated to finding a cure for Rett syndrome. Through these efforts, it is possible to create a world without Rett syndrome; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 2021 as RETT SYNDROME 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 31st day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



B. P. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Manton Kipstrich

CHIEF OF STAFF