



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Sickle Cell Disease is the most common genetic disorder in the United States. A group of inherited red blood cell disorders, SCD, also known as Sickle Cell Anemia, affects over 100,000 people in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS: More than 10,300 people in Georgia live with Sickle Cell Disease. In the U.S., up to 80 percent of people with Sickle Cell Disease are African American, and it primarily affects people of color; and

WHEREAS: Sickle Cell Disease is an inherited blood cell disorder that is present at birth when both parents pass down the sickle cell gene. If only one parent possesses the sickle cell gene, that child will have the gene but be able to live a normal life. However, they will be carriers and can pass the gene on to their children; and

WHEREAS: Sickle Cell Disease is diagnosed with a simple blood test. It is most often found at birth during routine newborn screening tests at the hospital. Because children with the disease are at an increased risk of infections and other health problems, early diagnosis and treatment are essential; and

WHEREAS: Sickle Cell Disease is chronic but treatable. Treatment options are different for each person depending on their symptoms. The State of Georgia hopes to make a difference by bringing awareness to others through education, research and improved treatments in an effort to one day find a cure; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 2021 as SICKLE CELL 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 15th day of July in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



GOVERNOR

ATTEST


CHIEF OF STAFF