BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION ADVOCACY DAY

WHEREAS: Substance abuse affects millions of individuals of all ages, races, and ethnicities, as well as their families, friends, communities, and workplaces; and

WHEREAS: Through the leadership of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, prevention has become an effective science in Georgia; and

WHEREAS: The five steps of the Strategic Prevention Framework are assessing needs, building capacity, strategic planning, implementation, and evaluation. This framework has served and continues to serve communities in every part of the state; and

WHEREAS: Implemented around our state, prescription drug, opioid abuse, and suicide prevention programs are helping to save the health and lives of Georgia’s children and adults, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS: Georgia’s prevention providers also implement state-wide and targeted programs, including thirty-seven Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Projects to tackle community-specific challenges. These projects aim to reduce underage alcohol use, prevent young adult binge drinking, and promote healthy choices among children, young adults, and adults; and

WHEREAS: State-certified drug free workplaces in Georgia provide Employee Assistance Programs (EAPs) and access to counseling and other treatment resources that employees might otherwise not be able to afford; and

WHEREAS: Employers who implement comprehensive drug free workplace programs should be commended and will continue to be rewarded through a state mandated 7.5 percent discount on workers’ compensation insurance; and

WHEREAS: On Substance Abuse Prevention Advocacy Day and throughout the year, we must help Georgians who are attempting to stop drug abuse and addiction before it begins. We should also celebrate and commend the individuals among us who are successfully living drug-free lives; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 9, 2021, as SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION ADVOCACY DAY in Georgia.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 9th day of March in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.

GOVERNOR

ATTEND

CHIEF OF STAFF