BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

WORLD POLIO DAY

WHEREAS: World Polio Day is held on October 24 in celebration of the birth of Jonas Salk, the American researcher who developed the first polio vaccine in 1955; and

WHEREAS: Rotary in 1985 launched PolioPlus and in 1988 helped establish the Global Polio Eradication Initiative to immunize the children of the world against polio; and

WHEREAS: Polio cases have dropped by 99.9 percent since 1988 and the world stands on the threshold of eradicating the disease, and many of the people immunized against polio living in developing countries saved from possible paralysis; and

WHEREAS: Rotary has contributed more than $1.9 billion and countless volunteers to protecting more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries, and is working to raise an additional $50 million annually; and

WHEREAS: These efforts are providing much needed operational support, medical staff, laboratory equipment, and educational materials for health workers and parents; and

WHEREAS: On World Polio Day, the State of Georgia recognizes the extraordinary efforts that have led to countless lives being saved from polio, and encourages all Georgians to join the fight for a polio-free world; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2021 as WORLD POLIO DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 20th day of October in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.