



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### LUPUS MATTERS DAY

- WHEREAS:** Lupus is an unpredictable and often misunderstood autoimmune disease that ravages different parts of the body. It is difficult to diagnose, hard to live with, and a challenge to treat; and
- WHEREAS:** Lupus can affect any part of the body, including the skin, lungs, heart, kidneys, and brain. No organ is spared. The disease can cause seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages, and organ failure; and
- WHEREAS:** Lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because its symptoms are similar to those of many other illnesses, and major gaps exist in understanding the causes and consequences of lupus. More than half of all people with lupus take four or more years and visit three or more doctors before obtaining a correct diagnosis; and
- WHEREAS:** Anyone can be diagnosed with lupus, but it often affects women aged 15-44, as well as people who are African-American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, and Native American, and people who have a family member with lupus or another autoimmune disorder; and
- WHEREAS:** On Lupus Matters Day, the State of Georgia strives to raise awareness of lupus and support the people living with it, commends those fighting to treat and find a cure for lupus, and encourages all Georgians to learn about lupus; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 14, 2022 as LUPUS MATTERS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.



*B. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Martha Kipertovich*

CHIEF OF STAFF