



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

MITRAL VALVE IN DOGS AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Mitral Valve Disease is a heart condition that affects dogs, most commonly small breeds. Most dogs first show signs of serious mitral valve disease as seniors; and
- WHEREAS:** Mitral Valve Disease can result in fatal heart failure, not just affecting dogs but also having a devastating emotional impact on their owners; and
- WHEREAS:** Many dogs with Mitral Valve Disease do not develop symptoms, or their symptoms can be treated with medication, but for some dogs that develop serious heart problems, life-saving surgery is the only option; and
- WHEREAS:** The necessary surgery requires skill and precision from the surgeon, and can be prohibitively expensive for owners and too complex for many veterinary surgeons; and
- WHEREAS:** One surgeon, Dr. Uechi from Japan, is proficient in performing the surgery, and is attempting to come to the United States to train surgeons throughout the country in his techniques. By making the surgery more widely available, costs will decrease and more owners will have the option to save their dog's life; and
- WHEREAS:** 2 Dogs On A Mission Foundation seeks to build awareness and promote knowledge regarding Mitral Valve Disease. During Mitral Valve in Dogs Awareness Month, the goal is to help owners who take care of dogs with this condition and bring awareness to the funding needed for training surgeons in America; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 2022 as MITRAL VALVE IN DOGS 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 12th day of November in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



B. P. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Manon Kipferich

CHIEF OF STAFF