



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive, neurological disease that affects movement and is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States; there is no objective test or biomarker for Parkinson's, and there is no cure or drug to slow the disease; and
- WHEREAS:** According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States is estimated to affect approximately one million Americans, with prevalence rising to 1.2 million by 2030; and
- WHEREAS:** It is estimated that the economic burden of Parkinson's disease on patients and family members is at least \$52 billion annually, including direct and indirect costs, treatment, social security payments, and lost income; and
- WHEREAS:** Research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown; and
- WHEREAS:** The symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors, slowness of movement and rigidity, difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking, cognitive impairment and dementia, mood disorders, and a variety of other non-motor symptoms; and
- WHEREAS:** As volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of persons living with Parkinson's disease and their families, increased research, awareness, and community support services provided by organizations like the Parkinson's Foundation and further supported in Georgia by programs like the Isakson Initiative are vital to finding more effective treatments, increasing access to quality care, and improving the quality of life for those affected by Parkinson's disease; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as PARKINSON'S 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 1st day of April in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.



B. P. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Mantua Kipatrich

CHIEF OF STAFF