

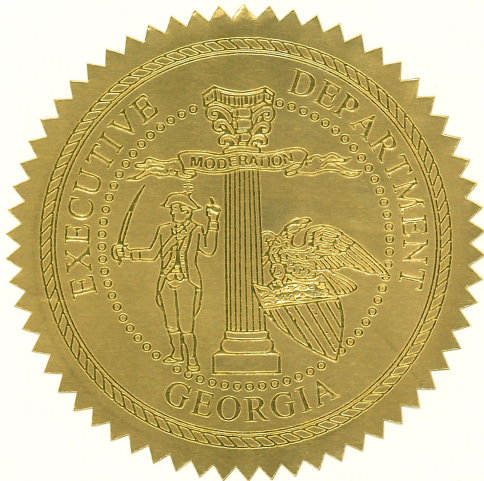
BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### PEDIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS:** The American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identify nutrition during the first 1,000 days of life as a critical factor to early brain growth, development of the central nervous system, and lifelong mental health; and
- WHEREAS:** The Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition published a field-leading consensus paper defining pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) as impaired oral intake that is not age-appropriate and is associated with medical, nutritional, feeding skill, and/or psychosocial dysfunction; and
- WHEREAS:** According to a national prevalence study published in the Journal of Pediatrics, conservative evaluations estimate that more than one in 37 children under the age of five and more than one in five children with a chronic disease experience severe PFD in the United States annually; and
- WHEREAS:** Every bite of food for children with PFD can be painful, scary, or simply impossible to swallow, potentially impeding nutrition, development, growth, and overall well-being; and
- WHEREAS:** Families navigating PFD often feel isolated and overwhelmed, struggling to overcome the medical, emotional, financial, educational, and social issues related to PFD; and
- WHEREAS:** Raising awareness for PFD will help create a world in which children with PFD can thrive by accelerating identification, igniting research, and promoting collaborative care and support for children and families; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 2022 as PEDIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER 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 18<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.



*B. P. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Mantua Kipertovich*

CHIEF OF STAFF