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 estimates suggest 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 PEDEIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 18th day of March in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.

[Signature]
GOVERNOR

[Signature]
CHIEF OF STAFF