



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

**WHEREAS:** Rett Syndrome is a postnatal genetic neurological disorder that occurs primarily in females, with symptoms usually appearing around 6 to 18 months; and

**WHEREAS:** A regression period leads to lifelong impairments with multiple dysfunctions: speech is lost, seizures can develop, scoliosis can occur, many develop irregular breathing patterns, and many people lose their ability to walk. A hallmark sign of Rett Syndrome is near constant repetitive hand movements; and

**WHEREAS:** Those diagnosed with Rett Syndrome can require assistance with daily living activities, but the disorder is not degenerative and biomedical research in mice suggests that neurological symptoms may be reversed even after decades of severe symptoms; and

**WHEREAS:** With the discovery of the gene that causes Rett Syndrome, research in the lab supporting the theory of reversibility of the disease, the discovery of breakthrough testing in vitro models, and the launch of multiple disease-modifying human clinical trials, those affected by Rett Syndrome now have hope that they will soon have relief; and

**WHEREAS:** This month and throughout the year, efforts are continuing to bring awareness to the medical community, therapists, teachers, caregivers, and the general public as well while researchers remain dedicated to finding a cure for Rett Syndrome; now

**THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 2022, RETT SYNDROME 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 29<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.



*B. P. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Matthew Kipparich*

CHIEF OF STAFF