



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

COLON CANCER MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States among men and women combined, as it affects men and women equally; and
- WHEREAS:** Colorectal cancer is one of the few cancers that can be prevented with timely screening, but 1 in 3 eligible Americans are not up to date on screening and 39 percent of colorectal cancer patients have their cancers detected at an early stage; and
- WHEREAS:** The survival rate of individuals who have early stage colorectal cancer is 90 percent but is only 10 percent when diagnosed after it has spread to other organs; and
- WHEREAS:** Black Americans are 20 percent more likely to be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and about 40 percent more likely to die from the disease than other groups, and colorectal cancer is expected to account for 11 percent of cancer deaths among Hispanic men and 9 percent of cancer deaths for Hispanic women; and
- WHEREAS:** The national goal established by the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable is to strive to increase timely colorectal cancer screening rates to 80 percent in every community for all Americans eligible for screening; and
- WHEREAS:** Organizations and institutions in Georgia such as GDC Endoscopy Center, Gwinnett Digestive Clinic, Emory Winship Cancer Institute, and others are committed to providing support and education to colorectal cancer patients and as well as their families and care givers, as greater awareness and further research efforts may lead to a cure one day; and
- WHEREAS:** Observing a Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month during the month of March provides a special opportunity to increase awareness and offer education on the importance of early detection and screening of colorectal cancer; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim MARCH 2023, as COLON CANCER MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 23rd day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.



B. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Marta Kipartidze

CHIEF OF STAFF