



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA.

## A PROCLAMATION

### CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

- WHEREAS:** Victims, including the most vulnerable in our society, are touched by violent crime every day, and thousands of Georgians become victims of crime each year. These victims may suffer emotional, physical, psychological, and financial hardship as a result of their victimization; and
- WHEREAS:** Victim assistance and compensation programs nationwide provide vital services that help individuals, families, and communities cope with the impact of crime. The Crime Victims Fund, established by the passage of the Victims of Crime Act, comprises fines and penalties levied on offenders, affirming the principle that those who commit crimes should be held accountable and our nation's commitment to addressing the needs of victims of crime; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia, following the federal government's commitment to provide for crime victims' needs, created the Crime Victims Emergency Fund in 1988 to help victims and their families deal with the financial, physical, and emotional aftermath of crime; and
- WHEREAS:** It is essential to wholeheartedly support victims having a voice in Georgia and recognize their importance to the criminal justice process. As such, in the State of Georgia, more than 35 years of progress for crime victims comes as a result of dedicated state personnel, victim advocates, law enforcement, service providers, and brave victims who overcame adversity in order to regain their voice and respect; and
- WHEREAS:** During Crime Victims' Rights Week, all Georgians are asked to remember the victims who have suffered at the hands of criminals and acknowledge those who unselfishly provide assistance to crime victims and tirelessly do whatever needs to be done to aide those most affected by crime; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 23-29, 2023, as CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK in Georgia.

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



*B. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Martha Kipferich*

CHIEF OF STAFF