



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS WEEK

- WHEREAS:** Cyberbullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that can occur online through SMS, text, apps, or in social media that is used to share content; and
- WHEREAS:** Cyberbullying can take place in any situation, 24/7 with the use of the internet to share hateful and hurtful messages. These conditions can lead to anxiety, depression, and even suicide in youth; and
- WHEREAS:** Bullying affects 1 in 3 youth, but unfortunately only 1 in 10 teens tell an adult if they have been a victim of cyberbullying. Once things are circulated on the Internet, they may never disappear, resurfacing at later times to renew the pain of cyberbullying. Some cyberbullying cases crosses the line into unlawful or criminal behavior; and
- WHEREAS:** Children and teens who are victims of cyberbullying may avoid technological devices, withdraw from family and friends, and experience a decline in academic performance. Victims may also appear reluctant to attend school or social events and engage in poor eating or sleeping habits; and
- WHEREAS:** Some cyberbullying cases cross the line into unlawful or criminal behavior, and are therefore punishable by law; and
- WHEREAS:** Many youths do not know how to deal with bullies who hide behind their screen, unsure of who to talk to or how to report incidents; and
- WHEREAS:** During Cyberbullying Prevention and Awareness Week, students, teachers, parents, and community members can take part in activities that will bring awareness and offer solutions to cyberbullying, in order to eliminate violence and create a safe environment for all Georgia's children to live, learn, and grow; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 13 – 17, 2023, as CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 13th day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

CHIEF OF STAFF

