



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

OTIS REDDING DAY

- WHEREAS:** Otis Redding was born on September 9, 1941 in Dawson, Georgia, and moved with his family to Macon at a young age. It was there in middle Georgia Otis started his career, showcasing his generational talents at local churches and talent shows; and
- WHEREAS:** Otis became one of the best-known artists of his generation, earning the nickname "The King of Soul." His timeless songs such as "Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay" are still enjoyed by fans around the world, Otis believed music could be a unifying force for all people. Throughout his career he worked with people of all races and creeds, and his music was enjoyed by all audiences during a time of social strife; and
- WHEREAS:** While Otis tragically lost his life in 1967, his legacy continues to shape America and Georgia today. His career opened the door for more Black musicians to follow in his footsteps; and
- WHEREAS:** On what would have been his 82nd birthday, The King of Soul Music Festival will be held in Downtown Macon and construction will continue on the Otis Redding Center for the Arts; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia is proud to recognize and honor one of its native sons for the remarkable life he lived and the incredible impact he continues to make on our culture through his music and through the philanthropic work of the Otis Redding Foundation; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 9, 2023 as OTIS REDDING DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 12th day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.



B. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

M. K. [Signature]

CHIEF OF STAFF