A PROCLAMATION

RARE DISEASE DAY

WHEREAS: According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), there are nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions considered rare, and as a group, they affect almost 30 million Americans, including many Georgians; and

WHEREAS: Many rare diseases are serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected, and while the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved more than 450 drugs and biologics approved for the treatment of rare diseases, millions of Americans still have rare diseases for which there is no approved treatment; and

WHEREAS: Individuals and families affected by rare diseases often experience problems such as diagnosis delay, difficulty finding a medical expert, and lack of access to treatments or ancillary services; and

WHEREAS: While the public is familiar with some rare diseases and sympathetic to those affected, many patients and families affected by less widely known rare diseases bear a large share of the burden of funding research and raising public awareness to support the search for treatments; and

WHEREAS: Georgia has committed itself to the advancement of research, treatment, and awareness for rare diseases with the passage of House Bill 918 establishing a Rare Disease Advisory Council (RDAC) in Georgia; and

WHEREAS: The National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) along with thousands of patients and care givers, medical professionals, researchers and companies developing orphan products to treat people with rare diseases, and others throughout the State of Georgia will participate in observing Rare Disease Day; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 28, 2023, as RARE DISEASE DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 27th day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

CHIEF OF STAFF