BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

REUNIFICATION MONTH

WHEREAS: Foster care is intended to be a temporary intervention for children who need the safety and security of an out-of-home placement; and

WHEREAS: Reunification takes work, commitment, and investment of time and resources by parents, family members, social workers, caregivers, service providers, judicial partners, and other community members; and

WHEREAS: Whenever possible, keeping families together in their home is an important goal for Georgia families; and all children and youth deserve to be safe; children do best when raised in families; and

WHEREAS: For most children in foster care, reunification with their family is their best option for a permanent and loving home; and

WHEREAS: All children need the care, love, security, and stability of family unity, including parents, siblings, grandparents, and other extended family members to provide a solid foundation for personal growth, development, and maturity; and

WHEREAS: Over 1800 children exited foster care via reunification in 2022; and

WHEREAS: The accomplishments of families who have overcome an array of challenges to reunify safely and successfully should be supported and celebrated; and

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 2023, as REUNIFICATION MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 24th day of May in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

[Signature]
GOVERNOR

[Signature]
CHIEF OF STAFF