



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION GEORGIA APRAXIA DAY

- WHEREAS:** May 14, 2024 marks Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day during which awareness will be raised throughout Georgia about childhood apraxia of speech, an extremely challenging speech disorder that affects 1-in-1,000 children.
- WHEREAS:** Childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) causes children to have significant difficulty learning to speak and is among the most severe speech deficits in children.
- WHEREAS:** The act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, those with apraxia require early, appropriate, and intensive speech therapy, often for many years to learn to speak.
- WHEREAS:** Without appropriate speech therapy intervention, children with apraxia will have diminished communication skills, but are also placed at high risk for secondary impacts in reading, writing, spelling, and other school-related skills.
- WHEREAS:** That such primary and secondary impacts diminish future independence and employment opportunities and challenge the ability to become productive, contributing citizens if not resolved or improved.
- WHEREAS:** Public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech in Georgia is essential for families of children with this neurological disorder and the professionals who support them to achieve the needed services for those learning to use their own voice.
- WHEREAS:** Our highest respect goes to these children, as well as their families, for their effort, determination, and resilience in the face of such obstacles. Let it be resolved, that May 14, 2024 is "Apraxia Awareness Day" and citizens of Georgia and surrounds are encouraged to work within their communities to increase awareness and understanding of childhood apraxia of speech.
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 14, 2024, as APRAXIA AWARENESS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 16th day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.



B. Kemp
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Laura M. Curry
CHIEF OF STAFF