



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### VIDALIA ONION FESTIVAL DAYS

- WHEREAS:** The Vidalia Onion Festival celebrates the annual harvest of Georgia's State Vegetable, the sweet Vidalia Onion and attracts over 30,000 visitors from around the world to South Georgia each year; and
- WHEREAS:** Providing a significant economic impact to the South Georgia region, the Vidalia Onion Festival has grown tremendously since its humble beginning in 1977 when the Vidalia Women's Club and the Vidalia Lion's Club organized an arts and crafts festival as a fundraiser to promote the sweet Vidalia Onion; and
- WHEREAS:** The Vidalia Onion Festival operates on local contributions, event sponsorship and limited revenue-generating activities and, in turn, donates funds back to the community throughout the year; and
- WHEREAS:** The 47th Annual Vidalia Onion Festival opens with local entertainment and Movie Under the Stars on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>; a Student's Chalk Walk on Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>; a street dance and fireworks on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, and a concert with headliner, Lauren Alaina in Historic Downtown on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>; and
- WHEREAS:** The Vidalia Regional Airport will host an air show featuring the U.S. Navy Blue Angels along with numerous other air show performers on Saturday and Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>; and
- WHEREAS:** With the aroma of freshly cooked Vidalia Onions, the celebration of the sweet Vidalia Onion harvest is shared with people from around the world with athletic events and sports tournaments, onion cooking events, arts and crafts, live entertainment, a carnival, and recognition of Vidalia Onion lore; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 25-28, 2024, as VIDALIA ONION FESTIVAL DAYS in Georgia.

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



*B. P. Kemp*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Lauren M. Curry*  
CHIEF OF STAFF