



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Cooperative business mode has a distinctive ability to promote economic growth in an equitable, inclusive, local, and democratic manner; and
- WHEREAS:** More than 30,000 cooperatives—including food, grocery, worker, retail, purchasing, utility, and financial cooperatives—account for more than 2 million jobs and generate more than \$700 billion in annual revenue; and
- WHEREAS:** 1,650 agricultural co-ops generate nearly \$300 billion in revenue for America's farmers from 10,000 business locations in all 50 States; and
- WHEREAS:** The cooperative model is sustainable and resilient as evidenced by the fact that 24 percent of agricultural co-ops are more than 100 years old, and 77 percent are more than 50 years old; and
- WHEREAS:** Rural electrical co-ops who provide affordable power to more than half of the Nation's landmass and serve 42 million people, including 92 percent of persistent poverty counties, are leading the way as innovators of the country's clean energy economy; and
- WHEREAS:** Rural telecommunications co-ops help unlock new markets for rural businesses and improve education and health care services via the expansion of high-speed internet; and
- WHEREAS:** During Cooperative Development Month, the State of Georgia recognizes the countless co-ops across the state who support their communities and help the state economy thrive; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 2025, as COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 19th day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.



B. P. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Lauren M. Curry

CHIEF OF STAFF