



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Congress created Employee Stock Ownership Plans (ESOPS) to be instrumental in helping Americans share in our Nation's growth and prosperity by enabling citizens to accumulate wealth in the businesses where they are employed; and
- WHEREAS:** Employee Stock Ownership Plans exist in approximately 6,800 companies in the United States, employing more than 14 million working men and women and holding assets of nearly \$1.6 trillion; and
- WHEREAS:** Studies have found that ESOP businesses are more profitable, with higher median household income for employees, more productive, have longer job tenure and retain workers during downturns; and
- WHEREAS:** The sale of businesses to the employees offers fair compensation to retiring business owners while retaining companies in the State of Georgia and providing their employee-owners with the opportunity to earn and secure prosperous retirement; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia has approximately 151 ESOP companies that provide retirement benefits for over 31,342 Georgians and paid out \$386 million in retirement funds last year; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 2025, as EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP 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. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Lauren M. Curry

CHIEF OF STAFF