



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### MYOSITIS AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Residents of Georgia are among those affected by myositis and other rare diseases, because nearly one in ten Americans have rare diseases; and
- WHEREAS:** Idiopathic inflammatory myopathies (collectively referred to as myositis) are rare, chronic, autoimmune muscle wasting diseases; and, myositis often features debilitating muscle inflammation and other symptoms, such as pain, fatigue, and trouble swallowing; and, myositis can result in myositis-associated interstitial lung disease; and,
- WHEREAS:** More research is needed to identify the causes of and modes of treatments for the myositis group of diseases, which includes anti-MDA5 autoantibody positive myositis; antisynthetase syndrome; dermatomyositis; juvenile dermatomyositis; immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy; inclusion body myositis; and polymyositis; and,
- WHEREAS:** Myositis is difficult to diagnose, so treatment is often delayed, and individuals generally experience difficulty finding a healthcare provider with expertise in their condition; and,
- WHEREAS:** All who suffer with myositis experience reduced quality of life, especially as no cure has been found and life expectancy is shortened, especially for those with inclusion body myositis; and, women and people of color with all forms of myositis experience particularly pronounced health disparities; and,
- WHEREAS:** The Myositis Association (TMA) is the leading international patient advocacy organization serving the myositis community, focusing on patient services, education, research, and public awareness, to achieve a world without myositis; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia joins the Myositis Association and its partnering organizations in observing Myositis Awareness Month from May 1-31, 2025; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 2025, as MYOSITIS AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.



*B. P. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Laura M. Curry*

CHIEF OF STAFF