



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### APRAXIA AWARENESS DAY

**WHEREAS:** Childhood apraxia of speech (CAS), which affect 1-in-1,000, causes children to have significant difficulty learning to speak and is among the most severe speech deficits in children; and

**WHEREAS:** The act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, but those with apraxia require early, appropriate, and intensive speech therapy, often for many years to learn to speak; and

**WHEREAS:** Without appropriate speech therapy intervention, children with apraxia will have diminished communication skills, and will also place at high risk for secondary impacts in reading, writing, spelling, and other school-related skills; and

**WHEREAS:** 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; and

**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; and

**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; now

**THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 14, 2026, 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.



*B.P.K.*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Lauren M. Curry*

CHIEF OF STAFF