



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### COMMUNITY BANKING MONTH

**WHEREAS:** For more than 150 years, Georgia community banks have been the backbone of local economies, providing essential financial services that foster prosperity and growth. They have established a tradition of extensive community involvement; consistently reinvesting deposits into the communities they serve in the form of commercial, agricultural, real estate, small business, and residential loans; and

**WHEREAS:** The Community Bankers Association of Georgia proudly celebrates its 58th year of service to Georgia's community banks; and

**WHEREAS:** Community banks are a driving force in local economic development—supporting business formation and expansion, creating jobs, and strengthening the economic foundation of communities across the state; and as major employers in Georgia, community banks provide thousands of jobs, serve millions of account holders, and contribute to the financial well-being of their shareholders; and

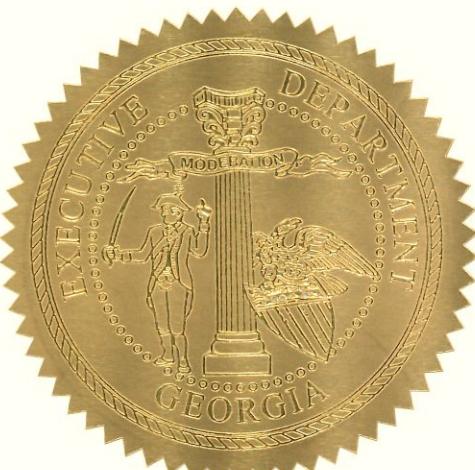
**WHEREAS:** Approximately 130 independent community banks across Georgia continue to make significant contributions to the well-being of local communities with their financial support and their dedication as good neighbors; and

**WHEREAS:** On average, approximately 95 percent of a community financial institution's loan portfolio is reinvested locally through farm, commercial, residential, and small business loans; and

**WHEREAS:** To increase public awareness and understanding of the vital role community banks have played and will continue to play in our state, the Community Bankers Association of Georgia will celebrate Community Banking Month during April 2026; now

**THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2026, as COMMUNITY BANKING MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.



*B.P.K.*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Lauren M. Curry*

CHIEF OF STAFF