



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

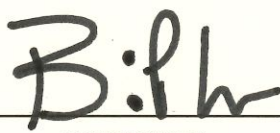
A PROCLAMATION

HOMOCYSTINURIA AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Homocystinuria (HCU) involves elevated levels of homocysteine, an amino acid (a building block of protein) that is produced in the body. High homocysteine levels can lead to serious health issues such as cardiovascular problems, including blood clots in the lungs or brain; and
- WHEREAS:** HCU is caused by various genetic mutations that are present from birth and is a rare inherited metabolic disorder that impairs the body's ability to process the amino acid methionine, leading to the buildup of homocysteine and other harmful compounds. Classical HCU, Cobalamin C or cblC, cblD, cblE, cblF, cblG, cblJ, cblK, cblX, and Severe MTHFR are all forms of Homocystinuria^{1,2}. HCU can cause serious health issues, including developmental delays, vision problems, osteoporosis, vascular disease, and other complications if not detected and treated early; and
- WHEREAS:** HCU is estimated to affect 1 in 100,000 to 200,000 individuals in the United States, however, this figure likely underestimates the true prevalence, as multiple studies indicate the actual birth prevalence may be considerably higher due to underdiagnosis and limitations in current newborn screening methods; and
- WHEREAS:** Up to 50% of babies born with classical HCU are going undiagnosed with current screening processes, highlighting a need for improvements. Early diagnosis through newborn screening (NBS) and effective management strategies can greatly enhance the health and quality of life for individuals affected by all forms of HCU; and
- WHEREAS:** In a collaboration with state NBS laboratories, policymakers, healthcare providers, patient organizations, and innovative, research-driven industry partners efforts are underway to address gaps, improve screening protocols, and ensure early detection and treatment for all affected patients and families in Georgia; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 2026, as HOMOCYSTINURIA 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 31st day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.




GOVERNOR

ATTEST

CHIEF OF STAFF