



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS APPRECIATION DAY

**WHEREAS:**

Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs) in the State of Georgia provide vital mental health services and actively work to bridge the gap in mental health disparities, ensuring that individuals from all backgrounds, races, socio-economic statuses, and cultures have equal access to quality mental health care; and

**WHEREAS:**

These dedicated Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs) undergo rigorous training and education, encompassing crucial areas such as psychopathology, testing and assessment, ethics, research, diversity, career development, and human development, equipping them to address multifaceted challenges faced by our citizens; and

**WHEREAS:**

The State of Georgia proudly recognizes and supports over 8,740 Licensed Professional Counselors and over 1,600 licensed associate professional counselors, each of whom contributes significantly to the mental and emotional well-being of our community members, reinforcing the strength and resilience of our great State; and

**WHEREAS:**

Inspired by the mission from the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia (LPCAGA), which aims to support the profession and professionalism of professional counselors, we acknowledge the pivotal role LPCs play in mental health treatment, ensuring that every individual in need receives the quality care and support they deserve; and

**WHEREAS:**

The establishment of the 988-crisis line, an essential helpline for those in dire need, now has a more extensive network of dedicated practitioners to refer to, thanks largely to the commitment and expertise of our Licensed Professional Counselors; and

**WHEREAS:**

We commend the autonomy and comprehensive capabilities of our LPCs who are sanctioned to practice independently, bill insurance companies directly, diagnose clients, administer vital clinical assessments, and conduct thorough mental health evaluations independently; now

**THEREFORE:**

I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim January 22, 2026, as LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS APPRECIATION DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.



GOVERNOR

ATTEST

CHIEF OF STAFF