BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

PREMATURITY AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS: Premature birth is the leading cause of death in newborn babies. Prematurity is defined as birth before 37 completed weeks of gestation. Premature babies who survive may suffer immediate complications and often face lifelong health problems, such as learning disabilities, vision and hearing impairment, and cerebral palsy; and

WHEREAS: Prematurity and birth defects are the leading causes of infant mortality in Georgia, but the March of Dimes in Georgia has worked extensively to promote access to health services and health coverage that help to reduce premature births; and

WHEREAS: The month of November is recognized as World Prematurity Awareness Month to bring about recognition of this global health crisis, and November 15 is recognized as Prematurity Awareness Day across the United States; and

WHEREAS: On Prematurity Awareness Day, the State of Georgia recognizes the work being done to decrease premature births and encourages Georgians to learn about the risks associated with premature births and what they can do to help lower premature birth rates; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim November 15th, 2026, as PREMATURITY 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 15th day of October in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

Brian P. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Lauren M. Curry

CHIEF OF STAFF