



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

ESTABLISHING THE GEORGIANS FOR REFUGE, ACTION, COMPASSION & EDUCATION COMMISSION

- WHEREAS:** Human trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons by improper means, including force, abduction, fraud, or coercion, for an improper purpose, such as forced labor or sexual exploitation; and
- WHEREAS:** Human trafficking is an imminent threat domestically and internationally. Currently, there are 1.5 million people in the United States who are victims of human trafficking, most of whom are children; and
- WHEREAS:** According to Shared Grace International, 100,000 to 300,000 American children risk human trafficking victimization through sexual servitude each year. Street Grace, a faith-based organization on a mission to end human trafficking, estimates that this illegal enterprise represents an annual \$290 million industry in Georgia alone; and
- WHEREAS:** Human trafficking, sexual servitude, and child prostitution plague cities and states across our nation, with Georgia being one of worst states for these reprehensible types of modern-day slavery; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia must take swift and comprehensive action to combat this persistent – and growing – threat to freedom for countless victims in every region of our state; and
- WHEREAS:** There is an immediate need for the creation of a coalition of strategic partners – comprised of public officials, law enforcement, for-profit and non-profit organizations, faith-based institutions, and subject-matter experts – to tackle this challenge, obtain justice for victims, hold bad actors accountable, and end human trafficking in Georgia.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That the Georgians for Refuge, Action, Compassion & Education (GRACE) Commission is hereby created to leverage the wealth of knowledge, community resources, and unwavering commitment of an alliance of individuals and entities from the private and public sectors to find solutions to this challenge and seek to eliminate human trafficking in our state.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the GRACE Commission shall include twenty-two (22) members to be appointed by the Governor based on the recommendations of First Lady Marty Kemp.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That First Lady Marty Kemp, State House Speaker Pro Tempore Jan Jones, and Georgia Bureau of Investigation Director Vic Reynolds shall serve as co-chairs of the GRACE Commission.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the GRACE Commission shall produce regular reports of its activities and findings to the Governor, First Lady, and members of the public through its efforts to prevent, reduce, and aim to eliminate human trafficking in the State of Georgia.

This 26th day of February 2019.



GOVERNOR