WHEREAS: On July 29, 2019, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and several partners warned state and local governments about the rising threat of cyber attacks and urged swift action to protect and defend cyber infrastructure; and

WHEREAS: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security emphasized the need for governmental entities across the country to regularly back-up critical system configurations, reinforce cybersecurity awareness and education, and develop clear cyber incident response plans; and

WHEREAS: In recent months, multiple state agencies in Georgia have fallen victim to cyber attacks, causing significant service disruptions due to the installation of destructive malware and ransomware; and

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia must take immediate and comprehensive action to better defend against cyber intrusions, prioritize intergovernmental cybersecurity, and enhance the protection of critical data.

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

ORDERED: State Government Systems Cybersecurity Board. The State Government Systems Cybersecurity Review Board (hereinafter, “Cybersecurity Board”) shall be reconstituted to include the Adjutant General of Georgia, Chief Information Security Officer of the Georgia Technology Authority, Director of the Georgia Bureau of Investigations, Director of the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, and Executive Director of the Georgia Cyber Center at Augusta University. The Governor’s Technology Advisor shall serve as Chair. The Cybersecurity Board shall establish a new charter and rules of operations and meet quarterly or more frequently, as needed. The Cybersecurity Board shall review the cybersecurity of Executive Branch agencies to identify risks, promote best practices, and audit for cybersecurity training compliance. The Cybersecurity Board shall provide an annual briefing to the Governor.
It is further

Ordered: Mandatory Cybersecurity Training. The Georgia Technology Authority shall promptly deliver cybersecurity training materials to the Cybersecurity Board, which shall establish the order of coursework and schedule for semiannual cybersecurity training for all Executive Branch agencies. All Executive Branch agencies shall ensure that employees complete at least one form of cybersecurity training within ninety (90) days of this Executive Order. An employee’s failure to comply with this Order shall result in formal disciplinary action, up to and including termination. An employee or his or her supervisor may submit a written request to the Cybersecurity Board for a temporary extension. The Cybersecurity Board may approve such written request, but in no event shall such temporary extension exceed sixty (60) days’ additional time for compliance.

It is further

Ordered: Applicability. This Executive Order applies to every Executive Branch agency. “Agency” means an Executive Branch agency, board, bureau, commission, council, department, entity, or instrumentality of any kind, and others as may be designated by the Governor, to the extent that such designation does not conflict with state law. All Executive Branch agencies are required to comply with this Order in addition to all federal and state laws governing cybersecurity. Nothing in this Order has the effect of supplanting or superseding any federal or state law.

This 13th day of August, 2019.

[Signature]
Governor