



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

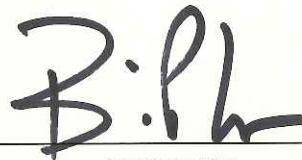
## A PROCLAMATION

### AMERICAN HEART MONTH

- WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia celebrates the extraordinary progress made in heart health and recognizes the need for more work to be done to safeguard heart health for future generations; and
- WHEREAS:** Sadly, heart disease is the leading cause of death for Americans. In 2017, Georgia ranked tenth among fifty states with the highest number of heart disease deaths. Over 29,000 Georgians suffered heart attacks and 18,000 Georgians lost their lives to heart disease; and
- WHEREAS:** Each year, there are over 350,000 out-of-hospital, sudden cardiac arrests in the United States with the survival rate averaging under ten percent (10%). Eighty percent (80%) of all sudden death victims have underlying heart disease; and
- WHEREAS:** Less than fifty percent (50%) of sudden cardiac arrest victims outside of a hospital receive bystander-initiated Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), and less than two percent (2%) of victims are treated with a bystander-initiated, on-site automatic external defibrillator (AED); and
- WHEREAS:** Keeping Georgians healthy and promoting awareness of health issues, including heart disease, are important responsibilities and depend on the actions of many organizations and groups in our communities. All Georgians should prioritize their heart health and take action to achieve better outcomes; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 2019 as AMERICAN HEART MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.





GOVERNOR

ATTEST



CHIEF OF STAFF