



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS WEEK

- WHEREAS:** Cyberbullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves either a real or perceived power imbalance and is directed toward an individual or group through electronic communication; and
- WHEREAS:** Cyberbullying primarily involves verbal aggression, including threatening or harassing electronic communication and relational aggression; and
- WHEREAS:** Effects of cyberbullying can include emotional distress to the victim that leads to anxiety, depression, or suicide; and
- WHEREAS:** Nearly nine percent of students in grades six through twelve have experienced cyberbullying. Unfortunately, though one in every three young people have received a cyber threat, only one in ten teens tell a parent if they have been a victim of cyberbullying; and
- WHEREAS:** Children who are victims of cyberbullying may avoid technological devices, withdraw from family or friends, and experience a decline in academic performance. Victims may also appear reluctant to attend school or social events and engage in poor eating or sleeping habits; and
- WHEREAS:** Some cyberbullying actions are criminally classified and therefore punishable by law; now
- WHEREAS:** During Cyberbullying Prevention Awareness Week and throughout the year, students, parents, and community leaders are encouraged to participate in activities intended to raise awareness of cyberbullying and provide solutions so that we may provide all children with a safe, welcoming environment in which to live, learn, and grow; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 10-14, 2019 as CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.



*B. P. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Trinity K. Fleming*

CHIEF OF STAFF