

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Cystic fibrosis, commonly referred to as "CF," is a genetic disease affecting approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States and nearly 70,000 children and adults worldwide, more than 800 of whom live in Georgia; and

WHEREAS: A defective gene causes the body to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs, and these secretions produce life-threatening lung infections and obstruct the pancreas, preventing digestive enzymes from reaching the intestines to help break down and absorb food; and

WHEREAS: More than 10 million Americans are symptomless carriers of the defective CF gene, and CF occurs in approximately one of every 3,500 live births in the United States. The median predicted age of survival for a person with CF born in 2017 was 46.2 years; and

WHEREAS: With advances in the treatment of CF, the number of adults with CF has steadily grown, and approximately 900 new cases of CF are diagnosed each year. Early diagnosis of CF permits early treatment and enhances quality of life and longevity. The treatment of CF depends on the stage of the disease and the organs involved; and

WHEREAS: Improving the length and quality of life for people with cystic fibrosis starts with awareness; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 2019 as CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 29th day of April in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.

