



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### GENERAL LAFAYETTE DAY IN SPARTA

- WHEREAS:** The Sparta Hancock Chamber of Commerce has been created to assist the economic development and revitalization of the city of Sparta and Hancock County, and has established a partnership with the Hancock County Historical Society to support this goal; and
- WHEREAS:** The Chamber and Historical Society are aware of General Lafayette's contribution to America's independence as a nation and that General Lafayette was credited for his military leadership in the Revolutionary War; and
- WHEREAS:** General Lafayette in 1825 was invited to return to America to recognize his contributions through a grand tour of the country. As part of the tour, he visited the city of Sparta and was greeted graciously by its citizens with a parade and a grand ball; and
- WHEREAS:** James Armistead, a slave, joined General Lafayette as a military spy who heard all the details on the British plan to ambush General George Washington at Yorktown, Virginia. He relayed critical information to Lafayette who in turn advised General Washington, leading to victory and surrender of the British forces under Cornwallis; and
- WHEREAS:** The Sparta-Hancock Chamber of Commerce and the Hancock Historical Society have planned a reenactment of the visit of General Lafayette to Sparta and recognize the role of the famous slave and spy, James Armistead, as history worthy of celebrating in the Hancock County community; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 13, 2019, as GENERAL LAFAYETTE DAY in Sparta, Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.



*B. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Trinity K. Fleming*

CHIEF OF STAFF