



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH DAY

- WHEREAS:** Maternal mental health is a critically important concern to women, their children and partners, and communities and must be a primary concern for the health and safety of families in the State of Georgia; and
- WHEREAS:** Perinatal mood and anxiety disorders currently cause depression, anxiety, obsessive compulsive thoughts, and/or psychosis in 1 out of 7 Georgia mothers, and only 10 percent of women with these disorders receive treatment; and
- WHEREAS:** Research has shown that untreated maternal depression and anxiety during pregnancy or postpartum negatively affects birth outcomes and infant development, including infant mental health and brain development; and
- WHEREAS:** Perinatal mood and anxiety disorders are highly treatable through assessment screenings, therapeutic interventions, community-based support services, and medication; and
- WHEREAS:** Increased awareness, education, and resources for screening, assessment, referral, and treatment of perinatal mood and anxiety disorders should be available to all women and their providers throughout the State of Georgia; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2019, as MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH DAY in Georgia and join maternal mental health support programs in the belief that public awareness regarding maternal mental health is a public health priority.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 26th day of April in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.



B. P. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Trinity K. Fleming

CHIEF OF STAFF