BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

PHELAN-MCDERMID SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS: Phelan-McDermid syndrome, also known as 22q13.3 deletion syndrome, is a rare genetic condition that is caused by the deletion or structural change of a part of chromosome 22 in the 22q13 region; and

WHEREAS: This microdeletion is rarely uncovered by typical genetic screening. As such, a fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) test or whole exome sequencing (WES) is recommended to confirm a diagnosis; and

WHEREAS: Individuals, parents, and advocacy groups can increase awareness of Phelan-McDermid syndrome and its symptoms through educational opportunities and informational exchanges; and

WHEREAS: Although the range and severity of symptoms may vary, Phelan-McDermid syndrome is generally characterized by varying degrees of intellectual disability, delayed or absent speech, symptoms of autism spectrum disorder, low muscle tone, motor delays, and epilepsy; and

WHEREAS: Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Awareness Day provides an important opportunity to raise awareness of Phelan-McDermid syndrome and ensure the timely diagnosis of the condition; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 22, 2019 as PHELAN-MCDERMID SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 6th day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.

[Signatures]

GOVERNOR

CHIEF OF STAFF