



# THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

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BY THE GOVERNOR:

**WHEREAS:** Early language development and literacy are vitally important to ensuring successful educational opportunities for Georgia's youth; and

**WHEREAS:** It is especially critical for children from birth to eight years of age to develop strong literacy and language skills to effectuate positive learning outcomes that will last a lifetime; and

**WHEREAS:** Families and teachers in child care centers, pre-schools, and K-3 classrooms, as well as those involved in early childhood education programs in universities and technical colleges would benefit from research-based practices and community engagement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY**

**ORDERED:** That the Georgia Center for Early Language and Literacy (the "Center") is hereby established and a governing board, appointed by the Governor, is hereby created to employ and advise the Executive Director of the Center.

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** That the Georgia Center for Early Language and Literacy will be housed at Georgia College and State University ("GCSU") with GCSU providing appropriate space, IT, and secretarial support for the Center.

**IT IS FURTHER**

ORDERED: That the following individuals are hereby appointed to serve as members of the governing board of the Georgia Center for Early Language and Literacy Development:

- *Matt Arthur*, Deputy Commissioner - Technical College System of Georgia
- *Keisha R. Callins, M.D.*, Chair and Assistant Professor - Mercer University School of Medicine
- *Wendy Cornelisen*, Assistant State Librarian for Library Innovation and Collaboration - The Georgia Public Library Service
- *Amy M. Jacobs*, Commissioner - Department of Early Care and Learning
- *Lucky Jain, M.D.*, President and CEO - Emory Children's Center; Richard W. Blumberg Professor and Chairman of Pediatrics - Emory University School of Medicine; Chief Academic Officer - Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- *Lisa Kinnemore*, Vice-Chair - State Board of Education
- *Dr. Joe Peters*, Dean of Education - Georgia College and State University
- *Martha Ann Todd*, Executive Director - Governor's Office of Student Achievement
- *Arianne Weldon*, Director - Get Georgia Reading Campaign

This 17<sup>TH</sup> day of March, 2017.



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GOVERNOR