



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Colorectal cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer and the second most common cause of cancer deaths for men and women in the United States, affecting both genders equally; and

WHEREAS: Every three minutes someone is diagnosed with colorectal cancer, and every ten minutes someone dies from the disease. The vast majority of colon cancer deaths can be prevented through proper screening and early detection; and

WHEREAS: Only 39 percent of colorectal cancer patients have their cancer detected at an early stage. While the survival rate of those individuals is 90 percent, this number drops to only ten percent when diagnosed after the cancer has spread to other organs; and

WHEREAS: If the majority of adults aged 50 or older were screened regularly for colorectal cancer, the death rate from this disease could plummet by as much as 70 percent; and

WHEREAS: Colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable, and beatable in most cases. Observing Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month provides a special opportunity to offer education on the importance of early detection and screening; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 2016 as COLORECTAL CANCER 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 20<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF