BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

COMMUNITY BANKING MONTH

WHEREAS: For more than 150 years, Georgia community banks have provided the support local communities need to prosper and grow. They have established a tradition of extensive community involvement, consistently reinvesting deposits into the communities they serve in the form of commercial, agricultural, real estate, and consumer loans; and

WHEREAS: Community banks continually play a significant role in local economic development by helping generate new business opportunities and jobs, thereby continuing to strengthen the economy of hundreds of cities, towns, and communities across the State of Georgia. Community banks serve as a significant employer in Georgia with thousands of men and women in full and part-time positions, serving millions of account holders as well as thousands of shareholders; and

WHEREAS: Over 200 independent community banks across Georgia continue to make significant contributions to the well-being of our communities with their financial support and their dedication as good neighbors; and

WHEREAS: Community banks focus on the prosperity of urban, suburban, and rural areas, meeting the various financial needs of consumers, small businesses, farmers, and corporations in their hometowns. This is achieved by reinvesting, on average, 95 percent of their loan portfolio in their respective communities through residential mortgages and commercial, agricultural, and student loans; and

WHEREAS: In order to create a greater public awareness and understanding of the important role that community banks have played and will continue to play in our state, Georgia recognizes Community Banking Month during the month of April; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2016 as COMMUNITY BANKING MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 26th day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley
CHIEF OF STAFF