BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

GEORGIA PRE-K MONTH

WHEREAS: Georgia's Pre-K program is nationally recognized and serves as a model for many other states endeavoring to improve their own educational systems. Roughly 60 percent of all four-year-olds in Georgia are served by our Pre-K and Head Start programs, with a statewide Pre-K enrollment of nearly 84,000 children; and

WHEREAS: The Georgia Children's Cabinet and Bright From the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning have been instrumental in meeting the needs of our youngest learners by furthering our Pre-K resources and increasing Pre-K program enrollment; and

WHEREAS: By focusing careful time, attention, and resources on children under the age of five, we can prepare them for both academic and career success by teaching them the crucial skills necessary to thrive in today's world; and

WHEREAS: Research has shown that Georgia's highly ranked Pre-K program has significantly improved and enhanced our students' literacy skills. Georgia Pre-K Month and Week affords us the opportunity to visit our Pre-K classrooms all around the state, learning about the value of early childhood education and reading to those young students served by these programs; and

WHEREAS: Georgia's Pre-K and early childcare educators are truly extraordinary. Their skills, dedication, and perseverance deserve to be recognized and celebrated; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 2016 as GEORGIA PRE-K MONTH and October 3-7 as GEORGIA PRE-K WEEK, encouraging all citizens to recognize the value our Pre-K programs add to communities all across our state by visiting their local early childhood education classrooms.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 27th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley
CHIEF OF STAFF