BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

KOREAN AMERICAN DAY

WHEREAS: Georgia is proud to commemorate and recognize the many contributions made by Korean Americans which have furthered the development of our state and nation. For over a century, the Korean community has realized significant accomplishments in the areas of education, industry, science, the arts, and community service; and

WHEREAS: The formal relationship between the United States and Korea began with the Treaty of Friendship and Commerce in 1882. As a result of this agreement, many Americans – especially missionaries – had a role in the development of modern Korea; and

WHEREAS: On January 13, 1903, the first Korean immigrants to the United States arrived in Honolulu, Hawaii, aboard the SS *Gaelic* and began new lives in this country; and

WHEREAS: This year, Georgians join with Korean Americans throughout our state to celebrate Korean American Day – a meaningful event that highlights the past and present contributions to society. As part of the American cultural tapestry, our citizens of Korean ancestry share an appreciation for freedom and peace based on a common respect for human dignity, prosperity, and democracy; and

WHEREAS: Members of the Korean American community served in the Armed Forces during World War I, World War II, and the Korean War in an effort to stem the spread of communism from Northern Korea; and

WHEREAS: Georgia welcomes the opportunity to host events which promote a greater understanding of various cultures of the world. Korean American Day provides a wonderful means by which all Georgians can experience the vibrancy of Korean heritage while fostering pride in culture among future generations of Korean Americans; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim January 13, 2016, as KOREAN AMERICAN 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 January in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.

Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF