BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

LIMB LOSS AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: There are approximately 2 million Americans living with limb loss or difference, and more than 500 people in the United States lose a limb each day; and

WHEREAS: Up to 1,000 babies are born each year with congenital limb difference, and as many as 600 children lose a limb due to a lawnmower accident each year; and

WHEREAS: Diabetes and peripheral vascular disease are the leading causes of limb loss, followed closely by trauma. However, studies show up to 60 percent of limb loss is preventable; and

WHEREAS: The number of amputations per day is estimated to double by 2050 without an increase in public awareness and the implementation of certain measures. For this reason, organizations and citizens across the state are working to highlight key prevention initiatives related to potential limb loss and to prevent an increase in the number of amputations; and

WHEREAS: Appropriate access to prosthetic care for those affected by limb loss is vital in enabling these individuals to not only reach their potential, but to live independently and well; and

WHEREAS: This month, we encourage those affected by limb loss and limb difference to live full and productive lives. Citizens are also encouraged to learn about issues affecting people with limb loss, express gratitude to caregivers, and salute combat and veteran amputees who have lost their limbs in service to this country or in retirement; and

WHEREAS: The Amputee Coalition provides education, outreach, support and advocacy through the National Limb Loss Resource Center for the benefit of persons with limb loss or difference, their families, and health care providers throughout the United States; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2018 as LIMB LOSS 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 1st day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.

Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF