



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

LUPUS ADVOCACY DAY

- WHEREAS:** Each year, the Georgia Chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America designates one day during the legislative session to promote Lupus Advocacy to show support for the estimated 55,000 Georgians who have lupus; and
- WHEREAS:** Lupus is an acute and chronic autoimmune disease in which the immune system is unbalanced, causing inflammation and tissue damage to virtually every organ system in the body; and
- WHEREAS:** Lupus can affect any part of the body, including the skin, lungs, heart, kidneys, and brain. No organ is spared. This disease can cause seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages, and organ failure; and
- WHEREAS:** While lupus strikes mostly women of childbearing age, no one is safe from lupus. African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Asians, and Native Americans are two to three times more likely to develop lupus – a disparity that remains unexplained; and
- WHEREAS:** Lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because its symptoms are similar to these of many other illnesses, and major gaps exist in understanding the causes and consequences of lupus. More than half of all people with lupus take four or more years and visit three or more doctors before obtaining a correct diagnosis; and
- WHEREAS:** It is important to educate and support individuals suffering with lupus and help secure funding for lupus research to find a cure; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 11, 2021, as LUPUS ADVOCACY DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 24th day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



B. Kemp
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Manton Kippenrich
CHIEF OF STAFF