



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### OMBUDS DAY

- WHEREAS:** The role of the ombuds originated over 200 years ago in Sweden, designated as a government official charged with advocating on behalf of citizens with complaints or problems with the government; and
- WHEREAS:** Today's ombuds are confidential, independent, and impartial conflict management professionals who work to address individual and systemic issues outside of and complementary to formal channels such as human resources, grievances, complaints, and legal action; and
- WHEREAS:** Ombuds work in a wide variety of organizations within Georgia and worldwide, including our state's long-term care facilities and correctional facilities, as well as universities and colleges, governments at all levels, healthcare institutions, corporations, financial institutions, for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, the media, and international organizations; and
- WHEREAS:** Ombuds programs provide a valuable form of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and significant value to the constituents and institutions they serve, and are an essential supplement to formal conflict management processes that address allegedly inappropriate or wrongful conduct; and
- WHEREAS:** Recognition of this day is an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the profession, highlight the value ombuds bring to the organizations and constituents they serve, and encourage the greater use of ombuds programs; and
- WHEREAS:** Citizens of Georgia are encouraged to become familiar with the ombuds profession and the professional in this role across sectors, and to make use of these essential services as needed; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2021 as OMBUDS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



*B. P. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Martha Kipetrich*

CHIEF OF STAFF