



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### PARKINSON'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Parkinson's disease is chronic, progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects movement; and
- WHEREAS:** One million people in the United States are currently living with Parkinson's disease with an additional 50,000-60,000 new cases diagnosed each year, making Parkinson's disease the 14<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and
- WHEREAS:** Research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown; and
- WHEREAS:** The symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors; slowness of movement and rigidity; difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking; cognitive impairment and dementia; mood disorders; and a variety of other non-motor symptoms; and
- WHEREAS:** Volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of persons living with Parkinson's disease and their families; and
- WHEREAS:** Increased research, education, and community support services, such as those provided by the Parkinson's Foundation and other organizations, are needed to find more effective treatments and to improve the quality of life for those living with the disease; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2021 as PARKINSON'S DISEASE 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 15<sup>th</sup> Day of March in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



*B. P. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Mantua Kipertovich*

CHIEF OF STAFF