



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

HINDU NEW YEAR

- WHEREAS:** Georgia is home to thousands of families of the Hindu faith who have made significant contributions to the collective heritage and quality of life in our State, and their religious traditions add to the rich cultural diversity of Georgia; and
- WHEREAS:** The Peach State is fortunate to be home to over 200,000 residents of Hindu faith. According to the US census, this diverse community supports economic growth in many different sectors; and
- WHEREAS:** Hindu New Year is an occasion celebrated by followers of the Hindu faith in India and around the world on the first day of Chaitra of the Hindu Lunar calendar, typically between March and April; and
- WHEREAS:** On Saturday, April 2nd, 2022, Hindus in Georgia will be celebrating the Hindu New Year, which can be called various names depending on region: Varsha Pratipada, Yugadi, Ugadi, Gudi Padwa, Baisakhi, Bihu, Puthandu, Vishu, Pana Sankranti, and Pohela Boishakh; and
- WHEREAS:** The Hindu New Year is commonly associated with the onset of spring and is accompanied by customs that vary from region to region, which include decorating homes with vibrant flowers, eating special foods, and enjoying other regional festivities with unique colors, rituals, and music; and
- WHEREAS:** Our state is enriched immeasurably by the contributions of Hindu Americans, a large and multifaceted population with a lush tapestry of beliefs and practices, and Hindu New Year is an important and much-anticipated event for Hindus who call Georgia home; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2nd, 2022, as HINDU NEW YEAR in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 16th day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.



B. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

M. Kippenrich

CHIEF OF STAFF