



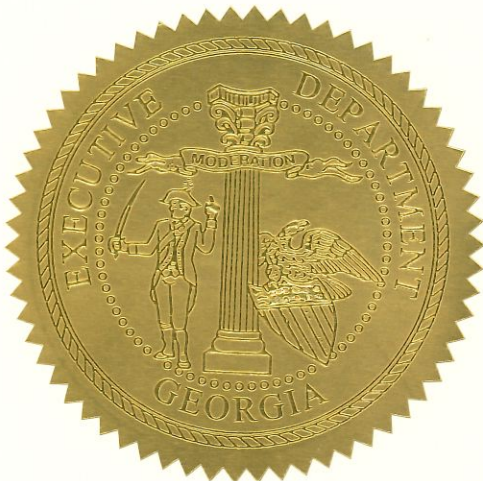
BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

- WHEREAS:** Overdose Awareness Day is internationally recognized on August 31 of each year to raise awareness of drug overdoses, reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths, and acknowledge the grief felt by families and friends by remembering those who have died or had a permanent injury as a result of a drug overdose; and
- WHEREAS:** Since March 2020, drug overdose deaths have increased by 60 percent in the State of Georgia, and deaths have increased by 16 percent this year alone; and
- WHEREAS:** Overdose is the leading cause of death for persons under the age of 50, and in a 12-month time frame ending in November 2021, there were over 106,850 drug overdose deaths, with the numbers of deaths doubling in the past six years; and
- WHEREAS:** It is important to recognize the signs of someone struggling with substance abuse as such person will often have personality changes, health problems, relationship problems, difficulty at work, and financial hardships; and
- WHEREAS:** Addiction touches people of all backgrounds; despite race, religion, education, or social class, people from all walks of life have suffered from substance abuse or known someone who has; and
- WHEREAS:** The people who suffer from substance abuse are mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, and friends to many, and it is up to the community to make strides to reduce the stigma associated with substance abuse to bring about education and healing; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2022 as OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 31st day of May in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.



B. P. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Manton Kipfer

CHIEF OF STAFF