



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

PREMATURITY AWARENESS DAY

- WHEREAS:** The March of Dimes Foundation works to promote the health of infants and women by supporting research, leading programs, and providing education and advocacy; and
- WHEREAS:** Premature birth is the leading cause of death in newborn babies. Prematurity is defined as birth before 37 completed weeks of gestation. Premature babies who survive may suffer immediate complications and often face lifelong health problems, such as learning disabilities, vision and hearing impairment, and cerebral palsy; and
- WHEREAS:** In Georgia, March of Dimes has worked extensively to advocate for moms and babies, with about 14,000 babies born preterm each year in the State of Georgia, representing 11.4 percent of all state births; and
- WHEREAS:** The month of November is recognized as Prematurity Awareness Month and November 17th is recognized as World Prematurity Day to raise awareness; and
- WHEREAS:** On Prematurity Awareness Day, the State of Georgia recognizes the work being done to decrease premature births and encourages Georgians to learn about the risks associated with premature births and what they can do to help lower premature birth rates; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim November 17, 2022, as PREMATURITY 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 20th day of October in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.



B. P. Kemp
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Martina Kipertovich
CHIEF OF STAFF