



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA.

## A PROCLAMATION

### ARTHRITIS AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Monday, May 1, 2023, is the start of National Arthritis Awareness Month as arthritis is one of the leading causes of disability in the United States; and
- WHEREAS:** May 6th, 2023, marks the 75th anniversary of the Arthritis Foundation, the Atlanta-based organization dedicated to improving quality of life for those living with arthritis and working to find cures with life-changing science, resources, advocacy, and community connections; and
- WHEREAS:** There are more than 100 types of arthritis, impacting one in four Americans. Achy joints are just one of many symptoms of arthritis, which includes dozens of forms of joint pain and other indicators affecting people of all ages. Some of these disorders, if left untreated, can lead to permanent joint damage, blindness, as well as organs shutting down which can ultimately cause life-threatening outcomes; and
- WHEREAS:** Arthritis affects 24% of the population in Georgia, which is 2,603,000 adults with doctor diagnosed arthritis in the state. Among all adults in Georgia with arthritis, 42% have work limitations; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia recognizes the widespread impact of arthritis on Peach State residents and their families, friends, and caregivers, and supports the Arthritis Foundation's motto of "Live Yes!" and the support it provides to those living with arthritis; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 2023, as ARTHRITIS 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 9<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.



*B. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Shirley K. Lister*

CHIEF OF STAFF