**REENTRY AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS:**  Over 4.2 million Georgians have a criminal record on file with the Georgia Crime Information Center resulting in them facing collateral consequences of their incarceration; and

**WHEREAS**: Returning to the community after incarceration is a difficult transition, and an effective reentry process is vital to providing those in Georgia’s corrections systems with renewed opportunities for success; and

**WHEREAS:** Successful reentry empowers returning citizens to refrain from crime and incentivizes law-abiding behavior, thus supporting public safety throughout the State; and

**WHEREAS:** Supporting and raising awareness about the challenges and successes of reentry helps restore families, strengthen communities, and remove the obstacles that prevent returning citizens from securing meaningful employment and housing; and

**WHEREAS:** By eliminating negative stigmas associated with having a criminal record, supporting inclusiveness, and promoting redemption, compassion and kindness, we can help returning citizens thrive and achieve brighter futures; and

**WHEREAS:** Georgia’s efforts to remove barriers to employment and housing, while providing returning citizens with access to supportive resources during reentry, are truly commendable; now

**THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim July 2025, as REENTRY 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 23rd day of April in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.