



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

PREGNANCY AFTER LOSS AWARENESS DAY

- WHEREAS:** In the United States, 1 out of every 4 pregnancies ends in miscarriage. Each day across America, seventy families experience the stillbirth of their babies. The numbers of the babies who die each year from extreme prematurity, genetic conditions, or anomalies that are life-limiting and SIDS cause these numbers to rise exponentially; and
- WHEREAS:** Many of these families make the decision to attempt pregnancy after their loss. Pregnancy after loss comes with many fears and anxieties; and
- WHEREAS:** Pregnancy after the loss of a baby is associated with feelings of anxiety, depression, fear of another pregnancy loss, and guilt. For parents who have suffered from repetitive pregnancy loss, the feelings of fear and anxiety may be much more prevalent; and
- WHEREAS:** Providing awareness for the pregnancy after loss support will decrease the anxiety surrounding the pregnancy, therefore increasing the general and overall health and wellness of the mother and baby. Recognizing that pregnancy after loss has the potential to increase anxiety will enable the bereaved mother to feel supported during her grief, as well as during her journey to deliver her subsequent baby; and
- WHEREAS:** Women who are pregnant with their subsequent baby after loss are at an increased risk for depression and anxiety during the prenatal and postnatal periods. Awareness and recognition of the grief process and of the emotional difficulty that can be present with pregnancy after loss will increase the perception of feeling supported. This will lead to more positive healing along the grief journey and to increased mental and emotional wellness for the mother; and
- WHEREAS:** March 20, 2019, is the first day of Spring, bringing along the promise of new hope and joy, which is very symbolic of the promise that a new Rainbow Baby (a baby born after a loss) brings to his/her family; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 20, 2019, as PREGNANCY AFTER LOSS 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 27th day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.



B. Kemp
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Trinity K. Fleming
CHIEF OF STAFF