



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Breastfeeding lays a foundation for health in life. One of the most effective measures a mother can take to protect the health of her infant, including reducing the child's risk for becoming overweight or obese, is to breastfeed; and
- WHEREAS: Breast milk is easily digested and contains antibodies from the mother that pass to the infant. These antibodies help to protect against illness, including diabetes, ear infections, and allergies. Breastfeeding has been shown to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome; and
- WHEREAS: Support from the community, health care providers, employers, and family members helps to increase public awareness of the benefits of breastfeeding; and
- WHEREAS: Breastfeeding is a resource naturally provided to new mothers, offering many children who are breastfed a foundation for continued health and well-being; and
- WHEREAS: Breastfeeding is recommended as the optimal nutrition for infants by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the U.S. Surgeon General, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and the Georgia Department of Public Health; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 2017 as BREASTFEEDING 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF