



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

CELEBRATE IRAQ VETERANS AND FAMILIES DAY

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia's military community comprised the highest number of United States military servicemembers to serve during Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS: From March 20, 2003, to December 18, 2011, Georgia's sons and daughters served with distinction in Iraq within the active, reserve, and National Guard forces; and

WHEREAS: Celebrate Iraq Veterans and Families Day honors Georgia's servicemembers, veterans, and their families which have sacrificed so much for the freedoms and liberties we enjoy today. We especially honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice in order for the Iraqi people to be liberated from tyranny and to share in the ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, just as Georgians have enjoyed since our founding; and

WHEREAS: All Georgians, including veterans and their family members, are invited to celebrate the return of these veterans and recognize their families at the invitation and hosting of the City of Rome on Saturday, June 16, 2012. The Georgia Department of Veterans Services will also participate in a special veterans' benefits forum on this day; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 16, 2012, as CELEBRATE IRAQ VETERANS AND FAMILIES DAY in Georgia in honor of our state's veterans and their families, and further call upon all Georgians to celebrate our proud and rich heritage of service to Georgia and our country.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 28th day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve.



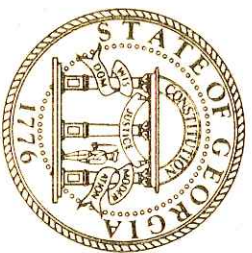
Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

C. R.

CHIEF OF STAFF



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION GEORGIA DOWNTOWN DAY

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia is made up of many beautiful cities – from its mountain peaks to its sandy coastline – each containing a downtown or main street area. These downtowns have contributed to the growth in our state for nearly 250 years; and

WHEREAS: Georgia's city downtowns are the heart and soul of our communities, creating places of historical significance for generations, and laying the foundation for the small businesses of our state. They are the natural incubators of entrepreneurship, business expansion, retention of young professionals, historic preservation, the arts, and culture; and

WHEREAS: The Georgia Downtown Association (GDA) was established to promote the revitalization, reinvestment, and economic development of the many central business districts of our state. GDA works with downtown development authorities, Main Street and Better Hometown programs, local elected officials, and volunteers to empower economic growth and vitality for our state through public and private investment. Since 1980, total public and private investment of GDA programs amounts to \$2.9 billion; and

WHEREAS: Georgia downtown programs have created 53,199 jobs in the 31 years of the state's Main Street programming, including 11,820 jobs in the last four years. These programs have also seen the opening of 592 new businesses, the rehabilitation of 365 buildings for a value of \$99.8 million in private investment, and saw 4,316,064 visitors to 73,727 events in 2011; and

WHEREAS: The dedicated work of GDA in conjunction with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Georgia Municipal Association, and Georgia Cities Foundation continues to support the education and outreach of such local programs throughout our state which fosters an atmosphere of success and local pride; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 6, 2012, as DOWNTOWN 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 twelve.


GOVERNOR

ATTEST


CHIEF OF STAFF

