



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

FLAGS ON ALL STATE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS ORDERED LOWERED TO HALF STAFF

WHEREAS: On Wednesday, February 21, 2018, Rev. William “Billy” Franklin Graham, Jr. passed away from natural causes. Today the State of Georgia mourns the loss of Rev. Graham and recognizes his contributions as a widely respected Southern Baptist minister. Rev. Graham was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, and died at the age of 99. He is survived by his sister, five children, 19 grandchildren, and many great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS: Billy Graham transferred to the Florida Bible Institute in 1937, and was thereafter called to the ministry. While at Florida Bible Institute, Billy Graham preached his first sermon at Bostwick Baptist Church and in 1939, he was ordained at Peniel Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS: Rev. Graham served as a pastor with unmatched global reach. He spoke to an estimated 215 million people in more than 185 countries through his television, radio, and internet presence. He also served as a counselor or minister to President Harry S. Truman and every President of the United States since. Rev. Graham served in his many roles with great honor and distinction; and

WHEREAS: Rev. Billy Franklin Graham, Jr. will be remembered as a devoted servant to the Lord, and as an honored counselor and minister to the people of the United States of America for his decades of providing hope and guidance to the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, IN HONOR AND AS A MARK OF RESPECT FOR THE MEMORY OF WILLIAM “BILLY” FRANKLIN GRAHAM, JR., PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That in conjunction with the Proclamation of the President of the United States of America, the flag of the United States and the flag of the Great State of Georgia shall be flown at half-staff on all state buildings and grounds on Friday, March 2, 2018, the day of Rev. Graham's interment, until sunset.

This 27th day of February, 2018.

Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR