



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Vaccines aid in reducing the burden of widespread and often fatal diseases, enabling individuals to lead longer and healthier lives while reducing health care costs. Immunizing newborns is the first step in this important cause and one of the best ways to protect the health and safety of all Georgians; and
- WHEREAS: With the help of Hallmark's For America's Babies program, First Lady Deal and I have provided over 120,000 specialized greeting cards with an immunization schedule for parents of newborns and a message that emphasizes the importance of immunizations as one of the best ways to protect the health and safety of Georgia's children; and
- WHEREAS: Thanks to programs like these and the efforts of many organizations throughout the state, much progress has been made in the attempt to raise awareness of childhood vaccinations. In 2010, Georgia's statewide immunizations increased to 82.4 percent from 76.3 percent, and it is imperative that we continue to educate Georgians on the significance of immunizations so this number continues to grow; and
- WHEREAS: The Georgia Children's Cabinet, a collection of state agency heads that work with child populations and community organizations in order to better serve our youth, has designated July as Childhood Immunization Month as a time to focus on this crucial cause; and
- WHEREAS: Children are Georgia's most precious resource. It is a priority that we invest in their health and well-being, thereby securing the next leaders of this great state; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim July 2015 as CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION 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 6th day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen.



Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley
CHIEF OF STAFF