



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### CHILDREN'S VISION AND LEARNING MONTH

- WHEREAS: As children across the State of Georgia prepare for the start of another school year, many of them will begin their studies with undiagnosed and untreated vision problems. As such, it is an opportune time to focus on the importance of good vision and its connection to learning; and
- WHEREAS: As many as one in four school-age children have vision problems that could interfere with learning. Unfortunately, approximately 18 million children will not have had eye examinations by a Doctor of Optometry or other certified vision care professional prior to entering school; and
- WHEREAS: The American Optometric Association estimates that 60 percent of students identified as "problem learners" have undetected vision problems; and
- WHEREAS: All children deserve the opportunity to learn and to achieve their full potential. For this reason, public awareness about learning-related vision problems is necessary to ensure that young people receive the prompt vision treatment they need to enhance their lives; and
- WHEREAS: Optimal vision is crucial for every child to be able to perform their best in school. Children's Vision and Learning Month is an opportunity to raise awareness of this relationship and to better educate Georgia's parents, teachers, and the general public on the importance of good vision for our students; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 2014 as CHILDREN'S VISION AND LEARNING MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF