



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION
25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

WHEREAS: Signed into law on July 26, 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) represents a milestone in equality. Modeled after the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the ADA prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in the areas of education, employment, government services, places of public accommodation, commercial facilities, and other vital areas of society. It is considered to be the first lawful affirmation for equal treatment of Americans with mental and physical disabilities; and

WHEREAS: The ADA has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers, changing perceptions, and increasing full participation in community life. Our state affirms its commitment to expanding employment opportunities for people with disabilities and ensuring that these individuals are equal citizens of our communities rather than being segregated in institutions and other similar facilities; and

WHEREAS: It is imperative that we remain committed to the ADA's core goals of equal opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency. Our state is proud to continue to help advance the cause of disability rights; and

WHEREAS: On July 26, 2015, we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act and renew our commitment to the ADA's principles in securing each person's right to an independent life, enabling our state and nation to benefit from the talents and contributions of all Americans; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 2015 as DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia and recognize July 26, 2015 as the 25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 4th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF