



## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

### A COMMENDATION

**WHEREAS:** The freedoms and liberties we are blessed to enjoy are a direct result of the courage, devotion, and sacrifice of our brave men and women in uniform. On April 4, 2014, Georgia honors and celebrates the service of all its women veterans and their families from all branches and eras, including those who continue to serve in our military; and

**WHEREAS:** The first known woman soldier in the United States Armed Forces was Deborah Sampson of Massachusetts who, disguised as a man, served in the Revolutionary War. Throughout the history of our military forces, women have been dedicated patriots, willing to put their lives in grave danger to protect our nation and the freedoms of its people; and

**WHEREAS:** The Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948 made women, who formerly served only as auxiliaries in times of war, a permanent part of our Armed Forces. Today, women can be found fulfilling nearly all duties that were once the exclusive domain of men in the American military; and

**WHEREAS:** In 2008, Lieutenant General Ann E. Dunwoody became the first female four-star general in the United States Army. Her promotion highlights not only the great capacity that the skills and efforts of women add to our military, but also the tremendous strides we have made as a society toward the achievement of gender equality in all occupations; and

**WHEREAS:** On April 4, Women Veterans Social Justice, Inc. presents the Inaugural Georgia Women Veterans Conference and launch of an electronic network of support and resources for Georgia's more than 100,000 women veterans; now

**THEREFORE:** I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby join in recognizing April 4, 2014, as

### GEORGIA WOMEN VETERANS DAY

and offer my deepest gratitude to all those who have honorably served in the United States military.



In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014.

*Nathan Deal*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST  
*Chris W. Riley*  
CHIEF OF STAFF