



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

HAITIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

- WHEREAS: The Republic of Haiti proclaimed its independence on January 1, 1804, becoming the second largest independent state in the Western hemisphere; and
- WHEREAS: Haiti's history of sovereign independence was a great step forward for the cause of freedom for all oppressed people around the globe. The history of Haiti has inspired, supported, and aided nations around the world in their pursuit of liberty and equality; and
- WHEREAS: Even before their own independence, approximately 750 Haitian freemen fought alongside colonial troops from the State of Georgia against the British in the Siege of Savannah on October 9, 1779; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Georgia is proud to join the Haitian community in observing the 211th anniversary of Haiti's independence and in recognizing the close ties between our state and Haiti; now
- THEREFORE: I, Nathan Deal, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim January 1, 2015, as HAITIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY in Georgia and encourage our citizens to observe this occasion with appropriate ceremonies and programs.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 2nd day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF