



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### HELEN KELLER DEAF-BLIND AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS: Helen Keller is one of the most respected and inspiring figures in American history; and

WHEREAS: Dual-sensory loss is a severe disability, but with education and training, the obstacles it presents can be overcome. It is in the best interest of Georgia to encourage the full participation of Americans with multi-sensory disabilities in our society by improving their options for employment and housing, and thus their opportunities for a productive life in the community of their choice; and

WHEREAS: Independent living indicates the ability to function smoothly and easily within the structure of society, to communicate with others, to travel freely and without fear, and to perform tasks that are necessary for survival. People with dual-sensory loss, through adaptability, can live full, rich, and independent lives, contributing to the well-being of our state and the nation; and

WHEREAS: It is important to publicize the abilities and potential of our fellow citizens who are deaf-blind or who have severely impaired vision and hearing and to recognize Helen Keller as a guiding example of courage, hope, and determination for other individuals who are deaf-blind; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 21-June 27, 2015, as HELEN KELLER DEAF-BLIND AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF