



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION METASTATIC BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer, other than skin cancer, found in women in the United States and is the leading cause of cancer death for women. Over 12 percent of women born today in the United States, or 1 in 8 women, will be diagnosed with breast cancer during their lifetime; and

WHEREAS: Although this devastating disease affects all races and socioeconomic classes, African American women with breast cancer are on average 40 percent more likely to die of the disease than white women with breast cancer, and breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death for Hispanic women; and

WHEREAS: Metastatic breast cancer, or Stage IV breast cancer, is the period in which cancer cells spread from the breast and metastasize in other parts of the body, commonly the lung, liver, bones, and brain; and

WHEREAS: Approximately 5 percent of newly diagnosed breast cancer cases are diagnosed as metastatic breast cancer, and it is estimated that 30 percent of early stage breast cancer cases will become metastatic or recurrent advanced cases; and

WHEREAS: Women with metastatic breast cancer have a poorer prognosis and lower five year survival rate than women with early stage breast cancer. Diagnosis of this disease in women under the age of 40 has increased by 2 percent each year; and

WHEREAS: Despite the morbidity and mortality associated with metastatic breast cancer, the median amount of funding spent on metastasis research constitutes only 5 percent of total cancer research spending; and

WHEREAS: Being aware of the information, support, treatments, and coping methods available can help those living with the disease, as well as friends and family members, through a potentially overwhelming and very difficult time; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 2015 as METASTATIC BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia and urge all citizens to spread awareness of this heart wrenching disease, provide support for those affected by this illness, and educate others on its prevention and early detection.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 28th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen.

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST
Christie A. Riley
CHIEF OF STAFF

