



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Ovarian cancer, the fifth leading cause of cancer deaths among U.S. women, is difficult to detect because it occurs in an organ deep in the pelvis and produces vague symptoms that may be dismissed; and
- WHEREAS: Recent studies have identified factors that put women at higher risk of developing ovarian cancer, such as a family history of breast and ovarian cancer, no pregnancies or infertility, no history of oral contraceptive use, or the use of high-dose estrogen for long periods without progesterone; and
- WHEREAS: Three-fourths of ovarian cancer diagnoses are made after women are already suffering through late stages of the disease. Early detection remains the most valuable weapon against ovarian cancer; however, there is not a simple early detection method. Conclusive research demonstrates that the following symptoms are much more likely to occur in women with ovarian cancer than women in the general population: pelvic and abdominal pressure, pain, swelling or discomfort; bloating; difficulty eating or feeling full quickly; and urinary symptoms. Women who have these symptoms almost daily for more than a few weeks should see their doctor, preferably a gynecological oncologist; and
- WHEREAS: The chances for survival from ovarian cancer in its late stages are 15 to 20 percent. However, when it is detected early, while the cancer is confined to the ovary in which it appeared, more than 90 percent of women can expect to be cured; and
- WHEREAS: By increasing awareness of early warning signs and risk factors, maintaining a healthy diet and consulting regularly with health care professionals, women across Georgia can lead healthier lives; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the state of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 2014 as OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

CHIEF OF STAFF