

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## **A PROCLAMATION**

## POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

WHEREAS:

The State of Georgia will forever owe a lasting debt of gratitude to its sons and daughters who have honorably and valiantly served in our country's military to defend the lives, liberty, and democracy of not only Americans, but also of other nations, often risking – and many giving – their lives on the battlefield; and

WHEREAS:

According to national and state historical data, from the Revolutionary War to present day, over 18,800 Georgians have been held as prisoners of war with more than 2,630 having died in captivity and over 1,400 still unaccounted for; and

WHEREAS:

On National POW/MIA Recognition Day, we acknowledge with deep respect the brave Americans who were held in captivity and those whose fates have never been resolved, remembering that their families continue to suffer; and

WHEREAS:

In defending American ideals, let us remember these Georgians who were prisoners of war and suffered the indignities and brutality of captivity; and

WHEREAS:

We must never forget the profound and painful suffering of Georgia families who continue to await word about the recovery of loved ones still unaccounted for and considered missing in action; and

WHEREAS:

On Friday, September 19, 2014, we pause to remember all former American prisoners of war who suffered the hardships of enemy captivity as well as all Americans still listed as missing in action and whose fate is still undetermined; now

THEREFORE:

I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 19, 2014, as POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY in Georgia, urging all citizens to observe with appropriate ceremonies, recognition, and moments of silence the sacrifices of those who were held as prisoners of war as well as those who remain missing in action, and do further encourage our citizens to fly the POW/MIA Flag as a tribute.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen.



GOVERNOR

ATTEST

CHIEF OF STAFF