



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### REACH GEORGIA DAY

- WHEREAS: Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen (REACH) Georgia is a public-private needs-based scholarship program designed to promote academic success and increase access to higher education; and
- WHEREAS: Education is a crucial asset for every individual and is a strong determinant of overall success. It is projected that by the year 2020, 60 percent of jobs in Georgia will require a college certificate or degree. Thus, programs like REACH Georgia are becoming increasingly critical so our youth may be afforded the best opportunity not only to attend college, but to obtain a credential upon completion; and
- WHEREAS: Upon completion of high school, REACH Georgia awards program participants, REACH Scholars, a scholarship of up to \$10,000 – \$2,500 each year for up to four years – to be used at a HOPE-eligible two or four-year college. Many colleges are matching or double-matching the scholarship, providing scholars additional resources for their college education and further ensuring success; and
- WHEREAS: Members of civic, corporate, and faith-based communities throughout the state are coming together to volunteer through REACH Georgia by funding scholarships, serving as mentors and tutors, and providing college and career counseling to REACH Scholars; and
- WHEREAS: Three years after the launch, 150 students in 23 school districts are participating in the REACH Georgia program. These students now find themselves better prepared to achieve their greatest potential while leading happier, more successful lives; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 6, 2015, as REACH Georgia Day and encourage all Georgians to join in celebrating the growing success of this inspiring program and to look forward to the positive impacts these REACH Scholars will have on the State of Georgia for years to come.

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 February in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF