



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

SCHIZENCEPHALY AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS: Schizencephaly is a rare but life-altering developmental birth defect caused by under-developed brain formation during pregnancy. An estimated 10,000 diagnosed and undiagnosed individuals are currently living with this condition for which there is no known cure; and

WHEREAS: This chronic disorder can cause epilepsy, muscle spasms, partial or complete paralysis, poor vision, and other severe medical complications. Patients living with this condition must often learn to live with constant medical expenses and continued therapies; and

WHEREAS: Increased awareness and expanded knowledge of the realities of life with schizencephaly is imperative in allowing communities to better support people who struggle with the challenges of this condition; and

WHEREAS: Numerous organizations around our state and nation, such as We Are R.A.R.E., are working together to promote this awareness and support by providing improved education, diagnosis, research, and treatment options; and

WHEREAS: I urge all citizens to demonstrate compassion for their fellow Georgians living with this condition by sharing facts about this disease and spreading awareness; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 19, 2014, as SCHIZENCEPHALY AWARENESS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 19th day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen.



Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST
Chris M. Riley
CHIEF OF STAFF