



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### SMOKING CESSATION AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS: Tobacco use remains among the leading preventable cause of illness, disability, and premature death in Georgia and throughout the U.S. Tobacco use contributes to the death of more citizens than HIV, illegal drug use, alcohol abuse, motor vehicle related injuries, and murders combined; and

WHEREAS: Children are more likely to have lung problems, ear infections, and severe asthma from secondhand smoke. More than 40 percent of children who go to the emergency room for asthma episodes live with a smoker; and

WHEREAS: Annual healthcare costs in Georgia caused directly from smoking total \$3.18 billion annually, and Georgia residents' state and federal tax burden from smoking-caused government expenditures total \$805 per household; and

WHEREAS: Approximately 19 percent of adults in Georgia are current smokers, and on average, smokers die 10 years earlier than nonsmokers. About 70 percent of adult smokers want to quit. On average, they make between 8–11 attempts before successfully quitting; and

WHEREAS: The Nobody Quits Like Georgia campaign provides information for smokers who want to quit at many healthcare facilities in their local communities; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim November 16–20, 2015, as SMOKING CESSATION AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF