

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## **A PROCLAMATION**

## 25th ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

WHEREAS:

For centuries, the people of Ukraine yearned and struggled to achieve an independent state all the while preserving their culture, language, and self-identity. Twenty-five years ago on August 24, 1991, the Parliament of Ukraine approved the Act of Declaration of Independence of Ukraine, formally declaring its independence from the Soviet Union, which was then upheld by over 90 percent of its citizens in a national referendum in December of that same year; and

WHEREAS:

The element of self-preservation was evident in the brave Ukrainian immigrants who settled on the shores of the United States and contributed greatly to the mosaic which is America by giving back to their adopted homeland, never forgetting about their rich history and heritage; and

WHEREAS:

The country of Ukraine has proven its commitment to democratic ideals which were embodied in its restoration of independence in 1991 and the values and responsibilities associated with it. Even through hardship, misnomers, and regression, the people of Ukraine continue their efforts to become a vital partner of the western community of democratic countries; and

WHEREAS:

The State of Georgia acknowledges the efforts of Ukrainian Americans to preserve the language, culture, and history of their homeland, which has greatly contributed to the multi-ethnic culture of the United States; and

THEREFORE:

I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 24, 2016, as UKRAINE INDEPENDENCE DAY in Georgia, and congratulate Ukraine on its 25 years of independence.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.



Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

CHIEF OF STAFF