

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

ALPHA-1 ANTITRYPSIN DEFICIENCY AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha-1) is one of the most common and severe hereditary

disorders. Alpha-1 may cause life-threatening illnesses, including lung disease in adults and

liver disease among patients of any age; and

WHEREAS: Alpha-1 has been identified in nearly all populations and ethnic groups. It is estimated that

1 in every 2,500 Americans have Alpha-1 and approximately 20 million Americans are

carriers of the single gene defect that causes Alpha-1; and

WHEREAS: Initial symptoms of Alpha-1 may include shortness of breath following mild activity, chronic

cough, wheezing, and unexplained weight loss; and

WHEREAS: Alpha-1 can be diagnosed through a series of simple blood tests. However, the disorder is

often underdiagnosed or misdiagnosed; and

WHEREAS: Fewer than 10 percent of those predicted to have Alpha-1 have been properly diagnosed and

research indicates that affected individuals will visit an average of five doctors before a proper

diagnosis is made; and

WHEREAS: Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency Awareness Month provides opportunities to increase

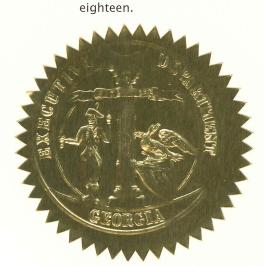
awareness of this serious and often misdiagnosed disorder. During November, health care providers, patients, and educational institutions are encouraged to raise awareness of Alpha-1 to improve diagnostic outcomes, expand treatment options, and provide better care and

support for those affected by the condition; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim November 2018 as

 ${\sf ALPHA-1}\ {\sf ANTITRYPSIN}\ {\sf DEFICIENCY}\ {\sf AWARENESS}\ {\sf MONTH}\ in\ {\sf Georgia}.$

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 22^{nd} day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand



Nathan Deal

ATTEST

CHIEF OF STAFF