



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

ALZHEIMER'S AND BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Alzheimer's disease is a degenerative brain disease characterized by memory loss and the deterioration of other mental functions; and
- WHEREAS: Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and the most common cause of dementia; and
- WHEREAS: Approximately 140,000 Georgians are living with Alzheimer's disease or dementia and an additional 527,000 individuals are affected by the disease through their roles as caregivers; and
- WHEREAS: In 2015, more than 3,000 Georgians died from complications associated with Alzheimer's disease, representing a 201 percent increase since 2000; and
- WHEREAS: Due to the growing proportion of Georgia's older adults, the number of individuals affected by Alzheimer's is expected to increase by nearly 40 percent by 2025; and
- WHEREAS: Initial symptoms of Alzheimer's disease may include memory problems, vision or spatial issues, impaired reasoning or judgment, or difficulty word-finding; and
- WHEREAS: Many individuals affected by Alzheimer's disease have one or more chronic conditions, resulting in increased health care costs. It is estimated Alzheimer's disease cost Medicare and Medicaid roughly \$186 billion in care costs in 2018; and
- WHEREAS: There's no known cure for Alzheimer's disease. However, medications and management strategies may temporarily improve the symptoms of those with the disease. Memory assessment clinics across Georgia provide residents with improved access to quality care and more accurate diagnosis of the disease; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Georgia recognizes organizations such as the Alzheimer's Association that are dedicated to raising awareness of Alzheimer's disease, improving treatment options, and finding a cure to improve the quality of life of those affected by the disease; and
- WHEREAS: During Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month, the Alzheimer's Association will recognize June 21, 2018, the summer solstice, as the Longest Day to honor caregivers for providing countless hours of care and support to those affected by Alzheimer's disease or other dementias; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 2018 as ALZHEIMER'S AND BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH and June 21, 2018, as the LONGEST DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 24th day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Ritz

CHIEF OF STAFF