



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### CHRONIC PAIN AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Chronic pain is defined as any pain that lasts for more than 12 weeks and is the most common reason Americans seek medical care; and
- WHEREAS: According to the Health and Medicine Division (HMD) of the National Academies of Sciences, 100 million Americans are affected by chronic pain as a result of severe illness or injury; and
- WHEREAS: Chronic pain may result from an underlying disease or health condition, an injury, medical treatment, inflammation, or a problem in the nervous system, among other causes; and
- WHEREAS: Pain can negatively impact almost every aspect of a person's life, such as the ability to work, sleep, and engage in social activities; and
- WHEREAS: Beyond the use of opioids, treatment options for those affected by chronic pain include acupuncture and physical therapy, among others; and
- WHEREAS: Organizations including the U.S. Pain Foundation are dedicated to increasing awareness of chronic pain to advance treatment options and improve the quality of life of those affected; and
- WHEREAS: Increased awareness of the effects of chronic pain will result in better outcomes, increased access to adequate pain care, and empowerment and validation for those living with pain; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 2018 as CHRONIC PAIN AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF