



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

GEORGIA SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia recognizes and values the dedication and entrepreneurial spirit of Georgia's small businesses that keep the state and America's economies growing strong. There are more than 650,000 registered establishments in Georgia, representing a majority of the total number of businesses with employees in the state; and

WHEREAS: Numerous entities, including the Georgia Centers of Innovation, the Joint Economic Development Committee of the State Senate and House of Representatives, and many others are committed to helping our businesses grow and creating new jobs within the state by providing exemplary workforce training, financial assistance programs, research, and technical assistance; and

WHEREAS: Georgia provides a wide array of services to small businesses, including the Small Business Development Centers, and access to resources and assistance through programs like the Georgia State Small Business Credit Initiative, a state lending program that focuses on supporting small businesses and manufacturers; and

WHEREAS: In 2016, Georgia was named once again the best state in the nation in which to conduct business. Additionally, Georgia was named second best state for fastest growth of women-owned businesses and top five for the most black-owned businesses. These accolades and others are evidence of the achievement of our efforts, as well as a testament to the success we have to look forward to; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 13-17, 2017, as GEORGIA SMALL BUSINESS WEEK and encourage all Georgians to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements made by small businesses across the state.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 1st day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF