



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### SERVICE DOGS FOR VETERANS AWARENESS WEEK

- WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia is committed to providing all possible assistance to its many accomplished, respected, and well-known veterans who become disabled through their service to our nation; and
- WHEREAS:** Disabled veterans endure a wide variety of conditions as a direct result of their military service, including vision and/or hearing loss, physical injuries, traumatic brain injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder, and seizures; and
- WHEREAS:** Well-trained service dogs allow veterans to lead more independent lives through their assistance with mobility, medical alert, carrying and retrieving needed objects, and guidework; and
- WHEREAS:** The public benefits from organizations like Freedom Fidos that train service dogs, provide knowledge of the important roles service dogs play, and teach proper etiquette to individuals who own service dogs and those who encounter them; and
- WHEREAS:** By promoting education, employment, housing, and recreation opportunities for disabled veterans with service dogs, we can maximize their chances for a productive life; and
- WHEREAS:** It is appropriate to celebrate the achievements of veterans who are disabled and further raise awareness of their needs; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 6-12, 2019 as SERVICE DOGS FOR VETERANS AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.



*B. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Timothy K. Fleming*

CHIEF OF STAFF