BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

CONSTITUTION WEEK

WHEREAS: September 17, 2016, marks the 229th anniversary of the 1787 Constitutional Convention where the oldest written constitution in the world was drafted by the United States, thus outlining the fundamental principles by which our nation is governed; and

WHEREAS: Our Constitution establishes six basic governing principles for our society, including popular sovereignty, the rule of law, federalism, judicial review, individual rights, and separation of powers with a system of checks and balances; and

WHEREAS: Popular sovereignty allowed our government to be created for and by the people, while the rule of law requires that government be guided by a set of laws, rather than by any individual or single group. Federalism provides for the sharing of power between our national government and individual state governments; and

WHEREAS: The Constitution ensures the distribution of functions and responsibilities among three separate branches and a system of checks and balances to calibrate those powers, guaranteeing individual rights and liberties against government encroachment; and

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia became the fourth state in the Union to ratify the Constitution, signed by Georgia delegates Abraham Baldwin and William Few, on January 2, 1788. Constitution Week affords the opportunity for all citizens to learn about Georgia's role during our nation's founding; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 17-23, 2016, as CONSTITUTION WEEK in Georgia and September 17 as CONSTITUTION AWARENESS DAY.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 12th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley
CHIEF OF STAFF