



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

**A PROCLAMATION**  
**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S**  
**CENTENNIAL YEAR**

WHEREAS: The Highway Department of Georgia, now known as the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), was created on August 16, 1916, by the Georgia General Assembly to oversee construction contracts and coordinate with the Federal Government in implementing the Federal Aid Highway Act; and

WHEREAS: The Motor Vehicle Law was amended in 1918 to provide funding for the operations of the State Highway Department which guided Georgia counties in voting on large bond issuances to fund the construction of roads. The State Highway Board, was created in August 1919 and designated the first state highway system, which included four highways spanning 800 miles, an additional 170 miles of paving and 28 new bridges, all in an effort to begin modernizing our transportation system; and

WHEREAS: By the 1950's, increased industrialization, migration from the agricultural countryside, the growth of cities, and the expansion of suburbs had transformed much of the state, yet farm-to-market roads were largely neglected. In response, the Rural Roads Authority was created in 1955 to assist rural Georgians. This initiative was funded by \$100 million of bond revenue and resulted in the unveiling of the first Interstate marker on I-75 in Tift and Turner counties; and

WHEREAS: The Executive Reorganization Act of 1972 transferred all duties and responsibilities from the State Highway Department to GDOT. At that time, the functions of GDOT expanded to include overseeing airports, aviation, landing fields, inspections of motor vehicles and some public transportation activities; and

WHEREAS: In each decade of GDOT's 100-year history, the construction, maintenance, and operations of Georgia transportation systems have increased mobility, enhanced quality of life, and provided a foundation for economic growth that makes Georgia the No. 1 state in which to do business; and

WHEREAS: Transportation technology and the ways people travel have changed remarkably in the last 100 years. This centennial milestone presents an opportunity to commit to further strengthening the state's infrastructure in the next 100 years to benefit Georgia's citizens and those visiting the state; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby join in celebrating 2016 as the GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S CENTENNIAL YEAR.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF