



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission

WHEREAS: This country was founded on the belief in the rightful enjoyment of certain basic freedoms, guarantees and safeguards for all citizens, and the State of Georgia is fully committed to the protection of those rights for all who reside here; and

WHEREAS: The struggle to win and to ensure respect and understanding - regardless of race, religion, creed, color, age, ethnic origin or sex - has been long, and it continues everyday all across this state and nation and around the world; and

WHEREAS: Despite progress in recent years, further efforts are needed to advance the goals of racial reconciliation and healing; and

WHEREAS: There has begun in Georgia a public discussion on issues affecting race relations in this state, the continued discussion of which is healthy and productive towards developing improved race relations;

NOW THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: There is created the Georgia Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission to consist of women and men of recognized ability and achievement representing a diversity of backgrounds.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Commission be responsible for a variety of functions that serve to strengthen and improve race relations in Georgia including, but not limited to:

Providing advice and guidance to the Governor, state leaders, local officials, and community activists as to furthering the dialogue of racial reconciliation and healing;

Promoting racial harmony, understanding, and respect and good will among all citizens;

Promoting awareness and appreciation of the civil rights movement and advocacy of the principles and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: All executive departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and authorities shall cooperate with the Commission in the performance of its duties; and

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Commission shall be administratively attached to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget; and

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the members of the Commission shall be paid reasonable traveling expenses in accordance with State travel regulations while engaged in the business of the Commission; and

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Commission shall meet no less frequently than quarterly, or upon the call of the Governor, to consider whatever business the Governor may deem appropriate.

This 15th day of October 2003


GOVERNOR