

## POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

WHEREAS: According to records from the National Archives and Records Administration, the Department of Defense and Georgia Historical Data, from the Revolutionary War to the present, over 18,800 Georgians have been held as prisoners of war, with more than 2,630 having died in captivity and over 1,400 still unaccounted for, including 38 from the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS: Men and women have served our country honorably and valiantly to preserve our freedom and democracy, often risking—and many giving—their lives in service to America; and

WHEREAS: On National POW/MIA Recognition Day, we acknowledge with deep respect those brave Americans who were held in captivity and those whose fates have never been resolved, remembering that their families continue to suffer; and

WHEREAS: Defending American ideals, prisoners of war suffered the indignities and brutality of captivity, and many of our fellow Americans who served our Nation remain unaccounted for and are considered missing in action; and

WHEREAS: On September 16, 2005, we pause to remember former American prisoners of war who suffered the hardships of enemy captivity and those missing in action whose fate is still undetermined; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 16, 2005, as POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY in Georgia in recognition of those Georgians who became prisoners of war and those who remain missing in action and encourage our citizens to fly the POW/MIA Flag as a tribute.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 31<sup>st</sup> day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand five.