

CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FLAG DAY

WHEREAS: The Children's Memorial Flag has become a recognizable symbol of the need to do a better job of protecting children; and

WHEREAS: Approximately 3 million children are reported abused and neglected in this country each year; and

WHEREAS: The effects of child abuse are felt by whole communities and need to be addressed by the entire community; and

WHEREAS: Effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies and the business community; and

WHEREAS: All citizens should become more aware of the issue of child abuse and its prevention within their communities and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2003, as CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FLAG DAY in Georgia and urge all citizens to memorialize the thousands of children across the country who die violently each year. I call upon all citizens to increase their participation in efforts to prevent child abuse, thereby strengthening the communities in which we live.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 16th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand three.