

LYMPHEDEMA AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS: Lymphedema, an often debilitating affliction, is an accumulation of lymphatic fluid causing swelling in the arms, legs or other areas of the body; and

WHEREAS: Over 100 million people worldwide are affected by some form of lymphedema, with the disease affecting people of all ages and ethnic backgrounds, without regard to gender. Lymphedema may result from damage to the lymph nodes following surgery or from a possible congenital abnormality; and

WHEREAS: Lymphedema is both chronic and incurable. With this in mind, public awareness is critical to winning the fight against this disease. Through proper education, patients can be relieved of much pain and suffering and further spread of the disease prevented; and

WHEREAS: It is important to educate, promote awareness and provide support for lymphedema patients, their families, the medical community and the general public; and

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia is proud to recognize the dedicated people who give their time to promote public awareness of lymphedema; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 22, 2003, as LYMPHEDEMA AWARENESS DAY in Georgia and encourage our citizens to learn more about the effects of lymphedema and the ways to treat this ailment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 22nd day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand three.

