

THE FIRST LADY'S *OUR CHILDREN* CAMPAIGN KICKOFF

WHEREAS: The First Lady's Our Children Campaign is designed to reinforce, support and give new opportunities to the many organizations and people around Georgia who are dedicated to the cause of protecting children. The campaign will kickoff on August 27, 2003, with the First Lady's Summit On Our Children, a daylong workshop on protecting and supporting Georgia's children, to be anchored in Atlanta at Georgia Public Broadcasting and conducted simultaneously in Augusta, Columbus, Dalton, Macon, Savannah, Tifton and Toccoa; and

WHEREAS: Every 30 minutes, a child is the victim of abuse in Georgia. As of January 2003, 14,472 children were in state custody; of these, 7,904 were in family foster care and 892 were in special settings because of serious emotional problems. By working together and getting involved we can put an end to this crisis of neglect; and

WHEREAS: The First Lady's Summit on Our Children will focus on four key areas: Prevention, DFCS and the Courts, Foster/Adoptive Parents and Homes & Services; and

WHEREAS: The ultimate goal of the campaign is to spur a new era of collaboration among Georgia's many communities and to increase the level of volunteerism on behalf of Georgia's children around the state; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 27, 2003, as THE FIRST LADY'S *OUR CHILDREN* CAMPAIGN KICKOFF in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 27th day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand three.