



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia is committed to the establishment of initiatives targeting the eradication of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS: In 2008, one in three middle school students (34%) were overweight or obese and 66% of adults in Georgia were overweight or obese; and

WHEREAS: Pursuant to Act 102 of the 2009 Georgia General Assembly (Reorganizing and Re-establishing the Department of Human Resources) the Division of Public Health was re-established under the authority of the Department of Community Health ("DCH"); and

WHEREAS: Act 102 empowered DCH to focus attention and departmental procedures on the issues of wellness, including exercise, and personal responsibility. O.C.G.A. § 31-2-1(5); and

WHEREAS: The 2009 Georgia General Assembly enacted the "Student Health and Physical Education Act" that required local school systems to conduct annual physical assessments of students and report such findings to the Office of the Governor; and

WHEREAS: The Governor's Council on Physical Fitness shall be created and tasked with the responsibility of creating incentive programs that reward local school systems for creating innovative physical education programs targeted at reducing childhood obesity rates; and

WHEREAS: The selected council members will be members of the community that have shown their dedication to eradicating childhood obesity rates through their service to the community.

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

ORDERED: That the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness shall be created and that the Department of Community Health shall provide administrative functions to the Council.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Council may receive staff support from the Division of Public Health, Department of Community Health to perform duties as deemed necessary to carry out the goals of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the members of the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness shall be selected by the Governor. The Director of the Division of Public Health shall serve as the Chair of the Council.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Council shall have the following powers and duties:

- To develop bylaws that address the policies and procedures under which the Council will operate.
- To solicit and accept donations, grants, contributions, and gifts on behalf of the state to enable it to carry out its functions and purposes.
- To identify and partner with private and public sector organizations and entities to further the mission of the Council.
- To develop competitive physical education programs targeted at promoting spirited competition between local school systems. Such programs may be positioned anywhere within the state and shall have components that encourage participation of both genders and all age groups. Such competitions will result in the issuance of prizes to individual participants and their respective school systems.
- To develop recognition programs for local school systems implementing physical education programs that result in reduced obesity statistics. Such programs may be in conjunction with or in addition to programs authorized under O.C.G.A § 20-2-777.
- To develop and sponsor physical fitness and sports workshops, clinics, conferences, and other similar activities for use by the local school systems to assist with developing health and physical programs for students.
- To develop programs to promote personal health and physical fitness in cooperation with medical, dental, and other similar professional societies.

This 23rd day of September, 2010.


GOVERNOR