

PATRIOTS DAY

- WHEREAS: April 19th marks the date in 1775 when the towns of Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts were marched upon by the British regulars in an effort to confiscate munitions of the local militia; and
- WHEREAS: The resulting “shot heard round the world” and the rout of the Redcoats are now celebrated as Patriots Day; and
- WHEREAS: On April 19, 1778, Colonel Samuel Elbert, commanding three Georgia Navy galleys, *Lee*, *Washington* and *Bulloch*, encountered three British ships in the Frederica River near St. Simons Island; and
- WHEREAS: After five hours of naval action, the British ships were captured by Colonel Elbert and the Georgia Navy, a victory which boosted the morale of all Georgia patriots and caused the British to delay their invasion of Georgia by more than eight months; and
- WHEREAS: Patriots Day serves to remind citizens of our Revolution and the sacrifices endured during the years of struggle for American independence; and
- WHEREAS: The descendents of the soldiers who fought in the American Revolution encourage the community to proclaim April 19th of each year a Patriots Day in commemoration of the American Revolution and the struggle for independence; now
- THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the state of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 19, 2010, as PATRIOTS DAY and urge all Georgians to become more knowledgeable of the role the Revolution played in the history of our great nation.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 19th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand ten.