DIABETES AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS: Diabetes affects 18.2 million Americans, including 600,000 Georgians; although, the cause

of diabetes is still a mystery, both genetics and environmental factors appear to play roles;

and

WHEREAS: Diabetes is a disease in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin, a hormone

that is needed to convert sugar, starches and other food into energy needed for daily life;

and

WHEREAS: Diabetes has wide-ranging implications for the entire family of the diagnosed individual, and

early diagnosis, research, training and education are vital to reducing the negative effects of

diabetes; and

WHEREAS: Significant progress has been made in the last few decades in the areas of research and

diagnosis for diabetes, resulting in an improved quality of life for individuals living with

 $diabetes; \ and$

WHEREAS: Diabetes is a complex disability that requires research to find a cure and prevention, as well

as increased recognition and understanding to ensure that individuals with diabetes are

accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS: Recognizing achievements in this field and continuing these efforts by promoting the

awareness and fostering the understanding of diabetes is in the best interest of the state;

now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 22, 2005, as

DIABETES AWARENESS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 22^{nd} day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand five.