

EYE DONOR MONTH

WHEREAS: Sight is one of our most precious gifts, and many Georgians recognize that it is within their power to give someone else the ability to see; and

WHEREAS: The purpose of Eye Donor Month is to alert Georgians to the power and opportunity they possess to give the gift of sight; and

WHEREAS: Eye donation for research has the potential to restore sight to those suffering certain types of blindness, and more than 26,000 Georgians have received the gift of sight from an eye donor; and

WHEREAS: Eye donation can give comfort and a sense of purpose to grieving families. Eye donation for corneal transplantation restores useful vision to those suffering from corneal blindness, and approximately 1,000 sight-restoring cornea transplants are performed annually in Georgia; and

WHEREAS: Eye donation is one of the most selfless gifts we can make to our fellow citizens, and it is vitally important to discuss with our loved ones and family our desire and decision to donate; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 2005 as EYE DONOR MONTH in Georgia and urge our citizens to give the gift of sight by becoming eye donors and by discussing their wishes with their families.

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