

# CONFEDERATE HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS: April is the month in which the Confederate States of America began and ended a four-year conflict in the Civil War. Confederate Memorial Day on April 26 is a time when Georgians honor the more than 90,000 brave men and women who served the Confederate States of America; and

WHEREAS: Georgia joined the Confederacy in January 1861 when a convention ratified the ordinance of secession, and Georgia has long cherished her Confederate history and the great leaders who made sacrifices on her behalf; and

WHEREAS: One of the many Confederate soldiers who made a significant contribution to the state was John Pemberton, who rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Third Georgia Cavalry Battalion. After the war, Dr. Pemberton went on to develop what we know today as Coca-Cola, and his efforts aided significantly in the economic and cultural development of the city of Atlanta as well as the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS: It is important that Georgians reflect upon our State's past and honor and respect the devotion of her Confederate leaders, soldiers and citizens; and

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2006 as CONFEDERATE HISTORY MONTH in Georgia and encourage our citizens to learn about Georgia's heritage and history.

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