

COLLEGE SAVINGS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Georgia competes in the global economy of the 21st century, and our citizens, recognizing the challenges ahead, have accepted the responsibility of providing our children with the education and skills that will enable them to compete for knowledge-based, highly technical jobs; and
- WHEREAS: Since 1980, the constantly rising costs of higher education have out-paced inflation, posing a serious threat to the ability of our citizens to ensure their children's access to a postsecondary education; and
- WHEREAS: It is in the best interest of the people of Georgia to encourage saving for higher education expenses, so that access to educational opportunities are enhanced for our children, grandchildren and others; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Georgia currently operates the Georgia Higher Education Savings Plan, a Section 529 Qualified Tuition Plan; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia's college savings plan offers both state and federal tax incentives to encourage saving for the expense of postsecondary education and to promote educational opportunity for all Georgians.
- THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 2003 as COLLEGE SAVINGS MONTH in Georgia and encourage the citizens of Georgia to recognize the value of higher education, to begin saving early and to save consistently for their children's future.

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

