WHEREAS: Diabetes is the third leading cause of death from disease in the United States, the leading cause of blindness and a leading chronic childhood disease; and

WHEREAS: Diabetes affects over 16 million people in the United States, and heart and kidney disease, vascular deterioration and blindness will affect one out of two insulin-dependent diabetics; and

WHEREAS: The diabetic needs enlightened encouragement and counseling to adjust to the mechanics of maintaining a daily regimen of exercise, diet, insulin injections and medications; and

WHEREAS: The Diabetes Research Institute was formed in 1971 to educate and inform the public of the seriousness of this disease, to provide family counseling and to fund research for a cure; and

WHEREAS: The Building Trades Department of the AFL-CIO and the North Georgia Building and Construction Trades Council are sponsoring a national fundraising event during the week of June 2–June 6, 2003, entitled "Dollars Against Diabetes" (DAD's) Week; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby commend those who play a role in

DAD's WEEK.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 12th day of May, 2003.