

# GIRLS AND WOMEN IN SPORTS DAY

- WHEREAS: Athletics play an important role in the development of discipline, initiative, confidence and leadership skills; and
- WHEREAS: Participation of women and girls in sports activities continues to increase in Georgia, and their achievements and contributions in sports are noteworthy. Amateur women's sports has increased at all levels, from elite competitions to community programs; and
- WHEREAS: Involvement in sports provides girls an opportunity to expand their social worlds as well as their emotional and physical well-being and to learn communication and cooperation skills at an early age; and
- WHEREAS: Physical activity promotes healthy bodies and minds as it increases flexibility, stamina and coordination; and
- WHEREAS: Studies have shown that young people participating in sports are less likely to become involved with drugs. It is vital to recognize the positive influence sports can have on growing girls through role models of coaches and sports figures, friendships that span social barriers, and experiences shared through athletics; now
- THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 4, 2004, as GIRLS AND WOMEN IN SPORTS DAY in Georgia and encourage all women and girls in our state to support or take part in sporting activities that include women.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand four.