

CENTENNIAL YEAR OF KOREAN IMMIGRATION

WHEREAS: The first Korean immigrants to the United States arrived in our country on January 13, 1903; and

WHEREAS: It is estimated that today more than 50,000 Korean Americans live in Georgia, making invaluable contributions to our rich cultural diversity, economic strength, and proud heritage; and

WHEREAS: Korean Americans are patriotic citizens of our State and Nation and through their service in World War I, World War II, the Korean Conflict, the Vietnam War, and other military actions, Korean Americans have served our Nation with honor and courage, upholding the values that make our country strong; and

WHEREAS: By their dedication to the timeless common values of hard work, enterprise, faith, family and freedom Korean Americans in Georgia help strengthen our communities, build our State's prosperity; and enrich our society in many ways; now

THEREFORE I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim 2003 to be the CENTENNIAL YEAR OF KOREAN IMMIGRATION in Georgia and call upon all Georgians to observe the anniversary with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities honoring Korean immigrants and their descendants for their countless contributions to Georgia and our nation.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 29th day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand three.