

LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Every day more than 13 Georgians, 400 Americans and 2,700 people worldwide are diagnosed with lung cancer; and

WHEREAS: In Georgia, lung cancer is responsible for more than 4,000 deaths per year, approximately 1/3 of the 13,000 deaths from cancer in the state of Georgia annually. This equates to one death from lung cancer every two hours; and

WHEREAS: Seventy through Seventy-five percent of patients are diagnosed with advanced disease. This is primarily due to the fact that most lung cancers are asymptomatic in the early stages of the disease and there is no accepted method of screening patients at high risk. As a result, the five-year survival rate for all stages combined is 14 percent; and

WHEREAS: Lung cancer survival improves dramatically when the malignancy is diagnosed at an early stage. Five-year survival rates up to 85 percent have been reported for these tumors. Therefore, awareness and early detection are an important part of winning the battle against cancer; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim November 2003 as LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 20th day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand three.