

SCOTTISH FESTIVAL WEEKEND

WHEREAS: Celebrating 31 years of honoring Georgia's Scottish heritage and furthering international recognition and trade to our state, the annual Stone Mountain Highland Games and Scottish Festival will be held at Stone Mountain, Georgia, on October 17-19, 2003; and

WHEREAS: The Scottish Festival brings over 40,000 people to Georgia with 120 Scottish Clans and Societies participating in traditional Piping and Drumming, Highland Dancing, Scottish Harp and Athletic competitions, as well as band performances and Scottish Country Dances; and

WHEREAS: One of the unique aspects of our state's history was the emigration of Scottish Highlanders to colonial Georgia in 1736 after James Oglethorpe determined the need for a fortified town in the area of old Fort King George on the Altamaha River on the southeastern frontier; and

WHEREAS: Oglethorpe sent Captain Hugh MacKay and Captain George Dunbar to recruit Highland warriors because they were schooled in war and ready and willing to fight; thus, some of the Clans who first settled in Georgia were the McIntoshes, the Mackays, the McDonalds, the Morrisons, the Sutherlands, the McLeods, and the Munros; and

WHEREAS: We share a responsibility to foster an understanding of the rich historical heritage and contributions our Scottish forefathers had on the successful development of Georgia and to explore the Scottish influences that helped shape our culture; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 17-19, 2003, as SCOTTISH FESTIVAL WEEKEND in Georgia and encourage our citizens.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 5th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand three.