

LATEX ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

- WHEREAS: As 1–6% of the general population are known to have latex allergy, the incidence of latex allergy has increased due to widespread exposure to products containing the latex rubber allergen; and
- WHEREAS: Natural rubber latex (NRL) is found in more than 40,000 commonly used products in health care, child care, schools, communities, and homes; and
- WHEREAS: Latex allergy related reactions include hives, itchy eyes, hay–fever–like symptoms, wheezing, hoarseness, runny nose, asthma, rapid heartbeat, anaphylaxis and death. These symptoms can be brought about by touch, breathing in airborne particles, or eating food that has been prepared using latex gloves; and
- WHEREAS: It is important to educate those with latex allergy symptoms in order to prevent related job loss, quality of life reduction, negative lifestyle changes, escalating healthcare costs and increased financial burden; and
- WHEREAS: Experts agree that, if someone has ever had a latex reaction of any kind, caretakers, healthcare providers, and school and daycare personnel need to be informed; and
- WHEREAS: Those at risk for latex allergy should be educated on symptom recognition and prevention strategies to lessen the possibility of developing this life–altering condition; now
- THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 30 – October 6, 2007, as LATEX ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 28th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand seven.