

## FIREFIGHTERS RECOGNITION DAY

WHEREAS: Georgia's firefighters protect the life and property of our residents and visitors from fire and critical health threats through response to fire and medical emergencies; fire prevention, including code enforcement, building and other inspections; criminal and cause-and-origin investigation; and public fire safety education; and

WHEREAS: Firefighters also are responsible for responding to calls regarding building collapses, hazardous material incidents, vehicle accidents, water main breaks, utility emergencies and other non-fire emergencies; and

WHEREAS: Many of Georgia's firefighters extend their training to specialty areas and serve as members of HAZ-MAT, Rope Rescue, Trench Rescue or Swift Water Rescue teams, often aiding and supplementing other departments; and

WHEREAS: Firefighters bravely face possible injury and even death in the performance of their duties, working long and unusual hours to safeguard the lives and property of Georgia citizens; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 3, 2009, as FIREFIGHTERS RECOGNITION DAY in Georgia and call upon our citizens to pay special tribute to the firefighters and fire departments that contribute to the safety and well-being of our state.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 28<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand nine.