

# TUBERCULOSIS AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS: Tuberculosis affects thousands of Georgians, including hundreds who have contracted the active disease and those who are exposed but complete treatment to prevent the development of the active disease; and

WHEREAS: Tuberculosis, caused by rod-shaped bacteria, is primarily an illness of the respiratory system that spreads by coughing and sneezing. Each year, about 2 million people die from this curable disease; and

WHEREAS: Tuberculosis has wide-ranging implications for the entire family of the diagnosed individual, but early diagnosis, research, training and education are vital to curing cases and reducing overall deaths resulting from tuberculosis; and

WHEREAS: Tuberculosis is a complex disability that requires increased recognition and understanding to ensure that individuals with tuberculosis are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated; and

WHEREAS: Significant progress has been made in the areas of research and diagnosis for tuberculosis. Today, tuberculosis is a curable disease when diagnosed and treated correctly; and

WHEREAS: Recognizing achievements in this field and continuing these efforts by promoting the awareness and fostering the understanding of tuberculosis is in the best interest of the state; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 24, 2005, as TUBERCULOSIS AWARENESS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand five.