

MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT WEEK

WHEREAS: Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week, sponsored by the United States Department of Commerce and Small Business Administration, is a week annually designated by the President to honor the contributions of our nation's minority entrepreneurs and to celebrate the free market that makes these contributions possible; and

WHEREAS: The Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), of the Commerce Department was created in 1969 as the only federal agency specifically designated to foster the establishment and growth of minority-owned business in our country; and

WHEREAS: The MBDA provides assistance to socially or economically disadvantaged groups who own or wish to start or expand their own businesses, including African Americans, Arabic Americans, Aleuts, Asian Indians, Asian Pacific Americans, Eskimos, Hasidic Jews, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans and Puerto Ricans; and

WHEREAS: Georgia is home to one of the five regional offices where MBDA staff oversee assistance and services for individuals in multi-state regions, and on September 7-13, the regional observance of MED Week will be held in Atlanta; and

WHEREAS: All Georgians can benefit from the success of our minority entrepreneurs, who create jobs, attract investment and generate revenue in communities throughout our state; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 8-12, 2003, as MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT WEEK in Georgia and urge all Georgians to celebrate our minority entrepreneurs.

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