

INFECTION PREVENTION WEEK

WHEREAS: Protecting the health of Americans includes providing every citizen with access to safe and effective health care; and

WHEREAS: Infection Prevention and Control Professionals are devoted to patient and healthcare worker safety and are committed to reducing the risk and occurrence of healthcare-associated infections; and

WHEREAS: The prevention of healthcare-associated infections is instrumental in achieving this goal; and

WHEREAS: Every year, Americans visit their physicians more than one billion times and over 37 million are admitted to hospitals, with many undergoing medical procedures that have a risk of infectious complications; and

WHEREAS: Healthcare-associated infections increase morbidity and mortality and add a significant financial burden to the cost of health care; and

WHEREAS: The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), representing more than 12,000 Infection Prevention and Control Professionals, sponsors International Infection Prevention Week with this year's theme being "Infection Prevention Is Everyone's Business;" now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 19–25, 2008, as INFECTION PREVENTION WEEK in Georgia and encourage all healthcare providers in the many healthcare facilities of Georgia to observe this week with the appropriate programs and activities and to renew their efforts to prevent healthcare-associated infections, thereby reducing the burden of human suffering and disease.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 24th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand eight.