



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

**A PROCLAMATION
PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING DRUG
AWARENESS WEEK**

WHEREAS: One of the greatest tragedies of modern-day athletics is the spread of performance-enhancing drugs, or PEDs. Many a young athlete has been lured into using these illegal substances with false promises of greater success in their careers and improved ability. Yet the consequences of taking PEDs far outweigh any benefits and often lead to lifetime sport bans, financial forfeitures, health issues, and the aura of disgrace around a player and his or her achievements; and

WHEREAS: There are many types of performance-enhancing drugs, including muscle mass builders or steroids, stimulants, painkillers, sedatives, diuretics, blood boosters, and others; and

WHEREAS: Sadly, and in spite of the numerous detractors to PED use, their prevalence has only grown in recent years as new research and technologies have expanded the number of ways in which athletes can use such ultimately destructive substances. It is estimated that as many as 1.5 million high school age students are experimenting with PEDs; and

WHEREAS: Performance-enhancing drug use is the antithesis of good sportsmanship and brings dishonor on not only those who make the unwise choice to use them, but also their fellow teammates; and

WHEREAS: In order to raise awareness of the harmful effects of PEDs, it is imperative that athletes of all ages and sports, their coaches, sports directors, and families learn what constitutes a performance-enhancing drug and recognize the detrimental impact they are having on our children, sports idols, and the spirit of the game; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim December 8-14, 2013, as PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING DRUG AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia and urge all athletes to educate themselves about the dangers of PED use.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 11th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF