



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION YOUTH BASKETBALL MONTH

WHEREAS: Current national figures indicate approximately 60 million people in the United States are obese. Obesity has become an epidemic in our nation, influenced by behavioral, environmental and biological factors that increase the risk of diseases such as high blood pressure, Type II Diabetes and heart disease; and

WHEREAS: The rate of childhood obesity in the United States has more than tripled in the past 30 years, and approximately 37 percent of children in Georgia are overweight or obese; and

WHEREAS: The lack of physical activity is a growing problem among our children. Only 20 percent of children in the United States are active in sport activities every day, and only 44 percent of Georgia's 9th-12th graders are meeting current physical activity recommendation levels; and

WHEREAS: Basketball provides our youth an excellent option for physical activity and contains positive motivational and social factors that facilitate compliance and contribute to the maintenance of a physically active lifestyle. Basketball successfully crosses all socioeconomic and racial barriers and regardless of a child's age or fitness level, basketball offers tremendous physical and mental health benefits, whether playing with a group or alone; and

WHEREAS: Supporting our children through the game of basketball is indeed a powerful prescription, with great potential to improve their overall health and promote social and family togetherness. Youth Basketball Month is celebrated in July along with the HOOPATLANTA Classic and Sports & Health Expo to help bring attention to the sport, encourage activity among our youth and to promote physical fitness during the time when our children are not in school; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the state of Georgia, do hereby proclaim July 2010 as YOUTH BASKETBALL MONTH in Georgia and encourage all citizens to join me in recognizing and commending our youth and their commitment to improving their health and well-being through physical fitness.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 18th day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand ten.



Sonny Perdue
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Ed F. Aklembka
CHIEF OF STAFF