



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### COMMUNITY BANKING MONTH

- WHEREAS:** For more than 150 years, Georgia community banks have been the backbone of local economies, providing essential financial services that foster prosperity and growth. They have established a tradition of extensive community involvement; consistently reinvesting deposits into the communities they serve in the form of commercial, agricultural, real estate, small business, and residential loans; and
- WHEREAS:** The Community Bankers Association of Georgia is celebrating its 57th year of serving Georgia community banks; and
- WHEREAS:** Community banks are a driving force in local economic development, fostering business growth, creating jobs, and strengthening the economic foundation of communities across Georgia. As major employers in Georgia, community banks provide thousands of jobs, serve millions of account holders, and contribute to the financial well-being of their shareholders; and
- WHEREAS:** Approximately 135 independent community banks across Georgia continue to make significant contributions to the well-being of Georgia communities with their financial support and their dedication as good neighbors; and
- WHEREAS:** On average, approximately 95 percent of a community financial institution's loan portfolio is reinvested in the local area as farm, commercial, residential, and small business loans; and
- WHEREAS:** In order to create a greater public awareness and understanding of the important role that community banks have played and will continue to play in our state, the State of Georgia will commemorate Community Banking Month during the month of April 2025; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2025, as COMMUNITY BANKING MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.



*B.P.K.*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Lauren M. Curry*

CHIEF OF STAFF