



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION CULTURE CHANGE DAY

- WHEREAS: "Culture Change" is the name commonly given to the national movement dedicated to changing the way we care for elders, and improving the quality of life and quality of care for all people who need help taking care of themselves in any place they call home. The Culture Change movement advocates for creating the kind of care that all people want for their loved ones and themselves; and
- WHEREAS: Culture Change is a simple concept valuing core person-directed and person-centered values including choice, dignity, respect, purposeful living and freedom for individuals to make their own choices about their daily lives. Respect is given to each person regardless of age, medical condition or limitations; and
- WHEREAS: The goal of the Culture Change movement is to put people first so that their needs, wants and preferences come before those of the organizations that serve them. Culture Change is working to replace the traditional approach to institutional aging in nursing homes with settings that are real homes, and where meaningful relationships with others create genuine interaction not often found in traditional institutions; and
- WHEREAS: Culture Change transformation supports the creation of both long and short-term living environments, as well as community-based settings, in which both older adults and their caregivers are able to express choice and practice self-determination in meaningful ways at every level of daily life; and
- WHEREAS: Culture Change transformation may require changes in organizational practices, physical environments, relationships at all levels and workforce models - leading to better outcomes for consumers and direct-care workers. Such can occur without being costly for providers; and
- WHEREAS: The Culture Change Network of Georgia is a group of dedicated supporters and stakeholders working as partners to promote and foster culture change to improve the quality of life for older Georgians *in all settings* where aging services are delivered. The Second Annual Georgia Culture Change Summit will bring thought leaders together to focus on "Setting the Stage for Culture Change: Preparing for our Aging Population in Georgia"; now
- THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the state of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2009 as CULTURE CHANGE DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 7th day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand nine.



Sonny Perdue
GOVERNOR

ATTEST
Ed F. Holcombe
CHIEF OF STAFF