



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

**A PROCLAMATION
STEVENS JOHNSON SYNDROME
AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS: Stevens Johnson Syndrome was discovered in 1922 by two pediatricians, A.M. Stevens and F.C. Johnson, after they diagnosed a child with "severe ocular and oral involvement to a drug reaction"; and

WHEREAS: Stevens Johnson Syndrome (SJS) and its offshoot, Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis, are severe adverse reactions to medication, including reactions to recommended drugs that help cure the three leading causes of premature death in the United States – heart disease, cancer and diabetes; and

WHEREAS: Almost any medication, including over-the-counter drugs, can cause SJS, which affects all ages of both sexes, with most cases occurring in children and young adults under 30. The most severe form of SJS is Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis, which occurs twice as often in females; and

WHEREAS: Recognizing the early symptoms and receiving prompt medical attention are the most valuable tools in minimizing the possible long-term effects of this disease; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the state of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 2010, as STEVENS JOHNSON SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 21st day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand ten.



[Handwritten signature]