

**Governor's Proclamation for
Lifeline Link-Up Awareness Week
September 12-18, 2010**

WHEREAS, in today's highly interconnected world, telephones provide a lifeline to emergency help and a vital link to government services, community resources, friends and family; *and*

WHEREAS, not everyone can afford the cost of a home telephone; *and*

WHEREAS, a number of our nation's households still do not have telephone service in their homes; *and*

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Georgia Public Service Commission have joined in a collaborative effort to make telephone service more affordable for the nation's low-income consumers by providing a discount on the connection fee and monthly charges for local telephone service; *and*

WHEREAS, the Link-Up America (Link-Up) and Lifeline Assistance (Lifeline) programs offer tremendous benefits for eligible consumers in America and make basic telephone service more affordable; *and*

WHEREAS, the Link-Up program provides a generous discount to consumers on the installation of telephone service in their homes; *and*

WHEREAS, the Lifeline program provides a discount to eligible low-income customers on their monthly phone bill; *and*

WHEREAS, the FCC has established Enhanced Link-Up and Lifeline programs for Tribal Lands; *and*

WHEREAS, consumers should not be without local phone service because they cannot afford it, and therefore the promotion of Link-Up and Lifeline is imperative to ensure that all U.S. citizens have access to affordable basic local telephone service; *and*

WHEREAS, the FCC, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), other State and federal agencies, cities, counties, organizations, and telecommunications companies are committed to increasing awareness about the availability of the Link-Up and Lifeline programs and are encouraging eligible citizens to sign up for the programs; *and*

WHEREAS, the FCC, NARUC, and NASUCA have joined together to design and implement a comprehensive outreach plan to promote Link-Up and Lifeline subscribership;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sonny Perdue, Governor of the state of Georgia, proclaim the week of September 12-18, 2010, Georgia Lifeline Awareness Week. I call upon government agencies, industry leaders and consumer advocates to educate residents about state and federal programs for telephone connectivity during National Lifeline Awareness Week and further initiate and promote outreach events during this special week.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of Georgia this 17th day of August A.D. Two Thousand Ten at Atlanta, Georgia.