



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, the citizens of the state of Alabama stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they:*

- *Provide safe, challenging, and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills; and*
- *Support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends; and*
- *Build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults; and*
- *Engage families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and*

*WHEREAS, the state of Alabama has provided significant leadership in community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults; and*

*WHEREAS, Lights on Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 28, 2018, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities; and*

*WHEREAS, 19.4 million families report that they would enroll their child in an afterschool program if one were available; and*

*WHEREAS, many afterschool programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights; and*

*WHEREAS, the state of Alabama is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that will help close the achievement gap and prepare young people to compete in the global economy; and*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 25, 2018, as*

# Lights on Afterschool Day

*in the State of Alabama;*



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2018.*

*Kay Ivey*  
Kay Ivey, Governor