



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Mental Health serves more than 230,000 people through a broad network of state mental illness and intellectual disability facilities and community-based services; and*

*WHEREAS, members of the Alabama Psychiatric Physicians Association serve thousands of Alabama residents through private practice and psychiatric hospitals and facilities; and*

*WHEREAS, serious mental illnesses, such as major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, severe anxiety disorders, borderline personality disorder and post-traumatic stress disorders affect one in every four people annually; and*

*WHEREAS, scientific research is producing tremendous breakthroughs in the understanding of mental illnesses, resulting in more effective treatments that allow people to reclaim full and productive lives; and*

*WHEREAS, serious mental illnesses are more common than cancer, diabetes and heart disease and are the number one reason for hospital admissions nationwide; and*

*WHEREAS, misunderstandings exist about many mental illnesses and our social culture often wrongly imposes stigma upon them; and*

*WHEREAS, serious mental illnesses have been scientifically proven to be highly treatable illnesses of the brain;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 7<sup>th</sup> through October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, as*

# *Mental Illness Awareness Week*

*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 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2018.*

*Kay Ivey*  
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Kay Ivey, Governor