



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, in 2018, the American Cancer Society estimates more than 600,000 people will lose their lives to cancer in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that 10,720 people in Alabama will die from cancer in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the National Cancer Institute estimates that from 18,000 to 210,000 deaths in United States could be avoided with prevention and early detection; and

WHEREAS, the cancer death rate dropped 25 percent between 1991 and 2014, because of reductions in smoking and advances in early detection and treatment; and

WHEREAS, specifically, according to the American Cancer Society, the five-year relative survival rate for cancers found at the local stage are about: 55 percent of lung cancers; 90 percent of colon and rectal cancers; 91 percent of cervical cancers; 99 percent of breast cancers; and 98 percent for melanoma of the skin cancers; and

WHEREAS, many of these cancers are often preventable, and early detection and treatment are critical as cancer does not always cause symptoms, and many occur in people with no family history; and

WHEREAS, specific cancer types disproportionately affect different populations, for example, breast cancer is the most common form of cancer among black women; prostate cancer rates in black men are double those of other men; and the likelihood of developing colorectal cancer for Alaska Natives is about double that of other Americans; cervical cancer is more prevalent among Hispanic and African-American women; two out of three people diagnosed with lung cancer are 65 or older; and melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, is among the most common cancers in young adults; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, rates of screening for many cancer types in recommended populations remain substantially below Healthy People 2020 targets; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to reinforce the need for people to discuss their individual risk factors for cancer with their healthcare providers and understand the recommendations for, and benefits of, cancer screening; and

WHEREAS, for those individuals who are found through screening to have cancer, they are presented with clear and complete options for further diagnostic or molecular testing and treatment by their healthcare providers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim December 3-7, 2018, as

Cancer Screen Week

in the State of Alabama, and all citizens are encouraged to visit cancerscreenweek.org for cancer screening resources and talk to their healthcare providers about their risk factors for all cancer types including, but not limited to, breast, cervical, colon, lung, prostate and skin cancers, and the recommended screening options.



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 9th day of November 2018.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor