

# *Proclamation*

## *By the Governor of Alabama*

*WHEREAS*, strong family relationships constitute the foundation of our community; and

*WHEREAS*, alienating behaviors are frequently seen in high-conflict divorces, separations and asymmetrical custody arrangements but can occur in intact marriages; and

*WHEREAS*, Parental Alienation is a term used to describe any number of behaviors and attitudes on the part of one parent, both parents or third party designed to interfere, damage or destroy the relationship a child has with their other parent. Its a form of abuse that causes emotional trauma to children; and

*WHEREAS*, the recently published Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) made several references to the dysfunctional family dynamic of alienation to be a form of psychological child abuse; and

*WHEREAS*, approximately 40,000 Alabama children a year experience court ordered visitation with one parent for only two to six days a month; and

*WHEREAS*, Parental Alienation Prevention Week is intended to increase the knowledge and understanding of this problem to help Alabamians, institutions, the legal and mental health community and leaders to better identify and combat parental alienation; and

*WHEREAS*, God so loved us, we also ought to love one another love does no harm to its neighbor therefore Children should be able to freely express the meaning of F.A.M.I.L.Y.  
Father And Mother, I Love You; and

*WHEREAS*, on April 25, 2019, at noon, soap bubbles will be used to represent the love children have and should be allowed to share with both their parents without fear or guilt;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim April 21 to April 27, 2019, as

# *Parental Alienation Prevention 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 27<sup>th</sup> day of March 2019.*

  
Kay Ivey, Governor