



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, Down Syndrome is the most frequently occurring chromosomal disorder and is the leading cause of intellectual and developmental delay in the United States; and*

*WHEREAS, approximately one in every 691 children are born with Down syndrome, representing an estimated 5,000 births per year in the United States with approximately 85 of those annual births occurring here in Alabama; and*

*WHEREAS, today, through the efforts of parents, activists, advocacy organizations and self-advocates, people with Down syndrome are offered transition services and vocational training, have meaningful relationships and experience a life of inclusion and rewarding independence; and*

*WHEREAS, yet despite significant increases in lifespan and intellectual opportunities over the past decade, there is still much work to be done regarding the rights to equality, education, medical care, research, employment and support for people with Down syndrome; and*

*WHEREAS, throughout the state of Alabama, all citizens are encouraged to work together to celebrate the lives of individuals with Down Syndrome, recognize their accomplishments, promote awareness and remember to appreciate and regard every individual with dignity as a valued member of the community; and*

*WHEREAS, through public awareness, the state of Alabama supports the initiatives of organizations working to ensure people with Down syndrome have adequate services, are valued by society and can lead fulfilling and productive lives in our community;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, as*

# Alabama Down Syndrome Day

*and the month of October 2019, as*

# National Down Syndrome Month

*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 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 2019.*

*Kay Ivey*  
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Kay Ivey, Governor