



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, rural communities throughout America are wonderful places to live and work – they are places where people know each other, listen to/respect each other, and work together to benefit the community; and

WHEREAS, rural America is the economic engine that helped the United States become the world leader it is today; and

WHEREAS, America's 60 million rural citizens possess a selfless, creative, community-minded spirit; and

WHEREAS, meeting the unique health care needs of those citizens is constantly evolving, as rural communities face accessibility issues, a lack of health care providers, an aging population suffering from a greater number of chronic conditions, and larger percentages of uninsured and underinsured citizens; and

WHEREAS, ambulatory and emergency medical services are especially critical in rural America, where 20 percent of the nation's population lives but nearly 60 percent of all trauma deaths occur; and

WHEREAS, rural hospitals, in addition to being sources of innovation and resourcefulness that reach beyond geographical boundaries to deliver quality care, are also typically the economic foundation of their communities with every dollar spent generating about 2.20 for the local economy; and

WHEREAS, being a rural health care provider provides tremendous opportunities to offer more comprehensive, compassionate, patient-centered, and holistic care to patients; and

WHEREAS, state offices of rural health, the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health, and other rural stakeholders play a distinct, critical role in addressing the unique health care needs of our rural citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim November 21, 2019, as

National Rural Health Day

in the state of Alabama and encourage citizens to honor our rural communities as wonderful places to live and work.



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 17th day of October 2019.

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor