



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, the well-being of our children – our most precious resource – is of paramount importance to the State of Alabama, and maintaining excellent health among children is a top priority; and*

*WHEREAS, in the United States of America, Congenital Heart Defects (CHD) are the most frequently occurring birth defects and are the leading cause of birth defect-related deaths; and*

*WHEREAS, in the United States of America, approximately 40,000 infants each year are born with Congenital Heart Defects; and*

*WHEREAS, although numerous professionals are researching Congenital Heart Defects in an effort to more accurately determine its origin, physical signs and improve surgical options, there is great need for life-saving research projects and funding for those projects; and*

*WHEREAS, there is much to learn about the causes of and effective treatments for Congenital Heart Defects and it is important for parents, pediatricians and nurses to recognize the warning signs associated with CHD among newborns so they may provide proper treatment as early as possible; and*

*WHEREAS, many of Alabama's families and communities have been directly impacted by childhood illness and death caused by Congenital Heart Defects; and*

*WHEREAS, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week will also provide the opportunity to share experience and information with the public and the media, in order to raise public awareness about Congenital Heart Defects;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim February 7-14, as*

# Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week

*in the state of Alabama encourage residents to join in the campaign to increase awareness of this serious health matter in an effort to improve early diagnosis.*



*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 January 2020.*

*Kay Ivey*  
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Kay Ivey, Governor