



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, approximately one in ten Alabamians suffers from a hidden disability—an impairment that may not be immediately apparent to others—including social impairments, chronic pain, autoimmune disorders, and countless other chronic health impairments; and

WHEREAS, the absence of visible signs in these hidden disabilities commonly hinders others from understanding or recognizing the presence of the person's disability; and

WHEREAS, this general lack of knowledge often leads to bullying, accusing the person of falsifying or imagining his or her disability and excluding the person from social activities, especially among school-aged children; and

WHEREAS, as concerned citizens of the State of Alabama, we must take adequate measures to foster a sense of empathy, acceptance and inclusivity among all citizens; and

WHEREAS, increasing awareness of hidden disabilities and promoting open dialogue about our own personal experiences with an inconspicuous disability is the first and most integral step in our mission to increase the quality of life for those suffering from a hidden disability;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim February 6, 2020 as

More Than Meets the Eye Day

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 15th day of January 2020.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor