



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, suicide is a national public health challenge that causes immeasurable pain among individuals, families, and communities across the country; and

WHEREAS, the number of Veteran and Military suicides has exceeded 6,000 each year from 2008-2017; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, 2nd for people ages 10-35, and on average 129 Americans die by suicide each day accounting for 47,173 suicide deaths in 2017; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2019, President Donald Trump signed Executive Order 13861 calling for the development of a comprehensive plan to empower Veterans and end suicide through coordinated suicide prevention efforts, prioritized research activities, and strengthened collaboration across the public and private sectors; and

WHEREAS, for every individual who feels alone, ashamed, or believes that they would be a burden if their thoughts or feelings were shared, there are scores of others in every community who want to help but are not sure how; and

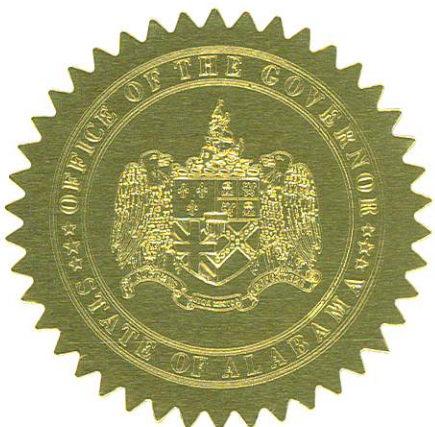
WHEREAS, Alabama businesses are in the unique position to leverage the learnings from our employees, including Veterans, to encourage a national discussion on mental health and wellbeing in the workplace, and collaborate on meaningful solutions; and

WHEREAS, the PREVENTS national public health campaign REACH, will seek to increase awareness of mental health issues and suicide prevention to reduce suicide for all Americans;

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

Suicide Prevention Awareness 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 5th day of August 2020.*

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor