



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, the role of the ombuds originated over 200 years ago in Sweden. An ombud is designated as a government official charged with advocating on behalf of citizens with complaints or problems with the government; and*

*WHEREAS, today's ombuds are confidential, independent and impartial conflict management professionals who work to address individual and systemic issues outside of and complementary to formal channels; and*

*WHEREAS, ombuds work in a wide variety of organizations within the state of Alabama and worldwide, including universities and colleges, governments at all levels, healthcare institutions, corporations, financial institutions, for-profit and non-profit organizations, the media and international organizations; and*

*WHEREAS, ombuds programs provide a valuable form of alternative dispute resolution and are an essential supplement to formal conflict management processes that address allegedly inappropriate or wrongful conduct; and*

*WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Labor Ombudsman Program benefits employers and employees alike, and the Alabama Office of the State Long-Term Case Ombudsman Program provides consumer protection advocacy services to individuals residing in long-term care facilities; and*

*WHEREAS, the American Bar Association has declared October 13, 2022 Ombuds Day with the theme of "Ombuds: Resilience, Respect, Resolve." Recognition of this day is an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the profession, highlight the value ombuds bring to the organizations they serve and encourage the greater use of ombuds programs;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 13, 2022, as*

# Ombuds 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 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2022.*

*Kay Ivey*

*Kay Ivey, Governor*