



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, 400,000 veterans call Alabama home, which means one in 10 Alabamians has boldly answered the call of duty to defend our independence and precious liberties as soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and coast guardsmen; and

WHEREAS, a national crisis has emerged in regards to veteran suicide, claiming the lives of an estimated 17 veterans each day; and

WHEREAS, a committed group of student veterans, led by Slade Salmon and Clayton Buchanan, have marched an impressive 151 miles from Auburn University to The University of Alabama as a call to our state's conscience on this issue; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion, the nation's oldest veterans service organization, has sponsored and provided resources for this important, 151-mile trek; and

WHEREAS, if any Alabama veteran is considering suicide, or if anyone is concerned that a loved one is considering suicide, he or she should call The Veterans Crisis Line at 988 to speak to trained counselors and access available resources; and

WHEREAS, each warrior who fights for our nation—along with their families—has earned Alabama's eternal gratitude, as well as, my full support and prayers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim November 23, 2022, as

Operation Iron Ruck 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 14th day of November 2022.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor