

## **Proclamation**

## By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabamians have suffered significant effects from severe weather during the primary and secondary severe weather seasons because of storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds and flooding; and

WHEREAS, according to the national weather service, in years past, Alabama has ranked number one in the nation in average annual tornado fatalities, and that number still remains high today; and

WHEREAS, increased public awareness and education regarding severe weather preparedness can substantially decrease the number of lives lost from deadly storms, which can occur any time of the year; and

WHEREAS, our citizens are our state's greatest resource, and historical data shows that building codes, insurance and available emergency funds protect our people, build more resilient communities and position Alabamians to prepare, mitigate, respond and recover more favorably when disasters strike; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's Severe Weather Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday weekend is offered annually the last full weekend in February to help prepare Alabamians for severe weather events and other emergencies; and

WHEREAS, this will be Alabama's  $12^{16}$  annual severe weather preparedness sales tax holiday, providing shoppers the opportunity to purchase certain severe weather preparedness items free of state sales tax; and

WHEREAS, many counties are participating in this holiday, and Alabamians are encouraged to take this opportunity to develop a disaster plan, build an emergency kit and create an emergency communication plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim February 20 through February 26, 2023, as

## Severe Weather Awareness Week

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 20th day of February 2023.

Kay Ivey, Governor