



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, Blue Star Families seeks to empower military families by connecting them with their neighbors, individuals and organizations to create vibrant communities of mutual support; and*

*WHEREAS, Blue Star Families annually designate a week as "Blue Star Welcome Week"; and*

*WHEREAS, during this week, we recognize the 600,000 active-duty and transitioning military families who move to new communities each year; and*

*WHEREAS, nearly half of these permanent change of station (PCS) moves occur during the summer; and*

*WHEREAS, only 33 of military family respondents to the 2022 Military Family Lifestyle Survey reported that they feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community; and*

*WHEREAS, a sense of belonging is essential to the well-being and readiness of military families; and*

*WHEREAS, we commit to ensuring that military-connected and Veteran-connected families feel a strong sense of belonging to their local civilian communities; and*

*WHEREAS, we express gratitude for the sacrifices made by service members, veterans and their families; and*

*WHEREAS, we encourage civilians nationwide to welcome military- and Veteran-connected families into their communities;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 23 through October 1, 2023, as*

# Blue Star Welcome 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 29<sup>th</sup> day of August 2023.*

*Kay Ivey*

*Kay Ivey, Governor*