



# 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 have marched an impressive 151 miles from The University of Alabama to Auburn University as a call to our state's conscious on this issue; 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 9-8-8 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, my full support and prayers and the support of the Ivey Administration;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim November 22, 2023, 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023.*

*Kay Ivey*

*Kay Ivey, Governor*