



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, the citizens of the state of Alabama stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help children realize their full potential and support their academic growth and wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs and opportunities support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive when they are out of their classrooms and help address key issues in our state, such as school absenteeism, learning loss recovery and workforce development; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs and opportunities build stronger communities by involving students, parents, businesses and volunteers in the lives of young people; and

WHEREAS, these programs provide a solid return on investment. Every \$1 invested in afterschool programs saves at least \$3 by increasing kids' earning potential, improving kids' performance at school and reducing crime and juvenile delinquency; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs provide critical support for children and youth, offering them new experiences and opportunities, along with hands-on learning. Youth who attend afterschool programs attend school more often, do better in school and gain important work and life skills; and

WHEREAS, Alabama is committed to the education and wellbeing of our youth and recognize that quality afterschool programs prepare our children to become successful adults, helping our community thrive; and

WHEREAS, Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 24th, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs for our children, families and communities; and

WHEREAS, the demand for afterschool programs continues to grow for every child in a program, four are waiting to get in. Many afterschool programs face operating challenges so severe that they are forced to consider closing their doors and turning off their lights;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2024, as

Lights On Afterschool 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 15th day of October 2024.

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor