



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, 2024 marks 150 years of Osteopathic Medicine. The Alabama Osteopathic Medical Association's (ALOMA) history begins with the innovative and thoughtful mind of physician Andrew Taylor Still, MD, DO, who, after losing his four children, reevaluated the existing practice of medicine and began setting down the tenets of osteopathic medicine in 1874; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Andrew Taylor Still changed the trajectory of modern health care delivery, as there are now more than 197,000 osteopathic physicians and osteopathic medical students in the United States; and

WHEREAS, osteopathic physicians have made significant contributions to the healthcare system of the United States and play a critical role in public health preparedness and working on the front lines treating patients. Osteopathic medicine emphasizes a whole-person, patient-centric approach to health care; and

WHEREAS, osteopathic physicians train and practice in all medical specialties and practice settings, in every state and across international boundaries. The interests of all osteopathic physicians are vital to our community, regardless of specialty or practice type, at the federal and state levels with the support of its state affiliates, specialty societies and other stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the association is registered as a not-for-profit organization. ALOMA advocates to ensure high standards in Osteopathic Medicine, support of medical training, public awareness, policies that benefit the profession and access to health care; and

WHEREAS, we provide a platform for continuous learning and professional development for our members. Our educational programs seminars, and conferences are designed to keep healthcare professionals up-to-date with the latest advances in medicine; and

WHEREAS, there are currently two Osteopathic Medical Schools in the state of Alabama: Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dothan, AL and Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, Auburn, AL. Alabama Osteopathic Medical School graduates tend to stay in Alabama for their clinical training and practice. A significant number of them match residency in the state of Alabama. A majority of graduates become primary care physicians and remain in rural areas of the state;

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

Osteopathic Medicine Month

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 5th day of December 2024.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor