



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, January 19, 1818, marked the beginning of the first meeting of the Alabama Territorial Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Territory was carved out following the creation of the state of Mississippi in 1817. Roughly, the land between Mississippi and Georgia became the Alabama Territory; and

WHEREAS, St. Stephens, in the southwestern area of the state, was chosen as the Territorial Capital. At that time, St. Stephens was the head of navigation on the Tombigbee River and was a prosperous town; and

WHEREAS, for nearly a month, this bicameral legislative body met at the Douglas Hotel in St. Stephens and enacted the laws that became the backbone for the development of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, in those initial sessions, the territorial legislature redrew county boundaries and added new counties, ordered a census to determine if Alabama met the requirement for statehood, established three judicial districts and appointed an attorney general for each district, and elected a state representative to the U.S. Congress; and

WHEREAS, the territorial era is an important part of the history of Alabama. Alabama Territorial Heritage Day celebrates territorial heritage by sharing the stories of our people; and

WHEREAS, many judges, attorneys, doctors, teachers, hoteliers, retailers, soldiers and pioneer citizens made their home in the Alabama Territory. They left an exciting heritage for us to uncover and share;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim January 19, 2025, as

Alabama Territorial Heritage 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 13th day of February 2025.

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor