

## Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, rural communities in Alabama and throughout the United States are exceptional places to live, work and volunteer; and

WHEREAS, nearly 61 million people (19.7 percent of the V.S. population) and 86 percent of the country's land area are considered rural; and

WHEREAS, the health and wellbeing of our citizens are of utmost importance to our state; and

WHEREAS, rural communities often experience barriers such as limited access to healthcare services, shortages of healthcare providers, transportation challenges, an aging population with higher rates of chronic conditions and a greater proportion of uninsured and underinsured citizens; and

WHEREAS, rural communities are resilient, resourceful and innovative – meeting challenges with creativity and collaboration; and

WHEREAS, rural America offers meaningful opportunities for dedicated health professionals to deliver high-quality, personalized care and essential health services; and

WHEREAS, National Rural Health Day – established by the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH) and observed annually on the third Thursday of November – highlights the unique healthcare needs and opportunities in rural communities:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim November 20, 2025, as

## National Rural Health Day

in the state of Alabama, and I encourage all citizens to join me in celebrating the "Power of Rural" and recognizing the vital contributions of healthcare providers, organizations and advocates serving rural America.



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 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2025.

Kay Ivey, Jovernor