

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 741

ESTABLISHING THE ALABAMA RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION ADVISORY GROUP

WHEREAS protecting the health, safety, and welfare of Alabamians is among the highest duties of state government;

WHEREAS Alabama's rural communities face persistent disparities in access to care, workforce capacity, health outcomes, and healthcare infrastructure, requiring coordinated and sustained action across state agencies, the Legislature, providers, and community partners;

WHEREAS the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, signed into law on July 4, 2025, by President Donald J. Trump, established the Rural Health Transformation Program, which authorizes states to submit plans to strengthen rural communities by improving healthcare access, quality, and outcomes by transforming the healthcare delivery system;

WHEREAS on November 6, 2025, the State submitted the Alabama Rural Health Transformation Program (ARHTP) to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, which includes policy reforms, innovative care models, shared-service infrastructure, and workforce initiatives; and

WHEREAS to ensure proper implementation, the ARHTP provided for the establishment of an advisory group to coordinate policy development, stakeholder engagement, and intergovernmental collaboration;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of the State of Alabama, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Alabama, do hereby establish the Alabama Rural Health Transformation Program Advisory Group, as further set forth below.

1. **Purpose.** The Advisory Group shall provide a forum for coordinated policy development, stakeholder engagement, and intergovernmental collaboration to advance reforms that improve access, quality, outcomes,

- and sustainability of healthcare in rural Alabama. The Advisory Group may also assist in developing and advancing legislation, regulation, and other state policy changes aligned with ARHTP strategies and timelines.
- 2. **Membership.** The Advisory Group shall be comprised of five members of the Alabama Senate and five members of the Alabama House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Governor. Additionally, the Director of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) shall serve as a member, as well as the ADECA Division Chief administering ARHTP, who shall serve as secretary.
- 3. **Chair.** The Advisory Group shall elect a chair and vice chair from among its members.
- 4. **Meetings and organization.** The Director of ADECA shall call the first meeting no later than 30 days following the State's acceptance of an award from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for the ARHTP. The Advisory Group shall meet periodically thereafter as deemed necessary by the chair. The Advisory Group may adopt bylaws and procedures and may establish committees, subcommittees, or working groups.
- 5. **Compensation and expenses.** Members of the Advisory Group shall serve without compensation but may elect to receive the per diem and transportation allowance authorized by state law for persons traveling on official state business.
- 6. **Administrative support.** ADECA shall provide administrative support to the Advisory Group as appropriate.
- 7. **State-agency cooperation.** State agencies and other state-funded entities shall cooperate with the Advisory Group and provide information requested by the Advisory Group.
- 8. **Implementation.** This order shall be implemented to the maximum extent possible consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations. Nothing in this order shall be construed as impairing or otherwise affecting the authority granted by law to an

- executive branch agency, or the head thereof, including the Governor of the State of Alabama, except to the extent expressly set forth in this order.
- 9. **No private right of action.** This order is not intended to, and does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any private party against the State of Alabama, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.
- 10. **Effect on prior related orders.** Any previously issued executive order is hereby rescinded to the extent it conflicts with this executive order.

DONE AND ORDERED this 18th day of December 2025.



KAY IVEY

ATTESTED

WES ALLEN

Secretary of State