



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, throughout the United States there are an estimated 1.1 million Americans living with HIV with Southern states accounting for half of new HIV diagnoses; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has 14,042 citizens currently living with HIV and another 2,340 people who may be living with HIV and not know it; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has the 15th highest new HIV diagnosis rate in the nation and the 9th highest AIDS-related death rate in the nation; and

WHEREAS, HIV continues to be a very stigmatized disease that creates barriers to HIV prevention and treatment; and

WHEREAS, community involvement in promoting HIV testing and education is crucial in our efforts to stem the rise of HIV transmissions and we must encourage treatment as prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS, Alabama AIDS Service Organizations (ASOs), state legislators, local and state health officials, networks of people living with HIV and allies are committed to ending the epidemic in the state of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Alabama HIV Awareness Day offers an opportunity to combat HIV stigma while communicating important prevention education about the epidemic;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim March 7, 2018, as

Alabama HIV Awareness Day

in the State of Alabama and encourages all Alabamians to increase their awareness and understanding of HIV, participate in prevention efforts and offer compassion and support to those people impacted by the disease.



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 16th day of February 2018.

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor