



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that approximately half a million Clostridium difficile (C. difficile) infections occur per year that require hospital treatment or affect those already hospitalized; and

WHEREAS, approximately 29,000 patients die within thirty days of the initial diagnosis of C. difficile of which about 15,000 deaths were estimated to be directly attributable to C. difficile infection; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that C. difficile has become the most common microbial cause of healthcare-associated infections in U.S. hospitals and costs up to \$4.8 billion each year in excess healthcare costs for acute care facilities alone; and

WHEREAS, 1 out of every 5 patients with a healthcare-associated C. difficile infection experience a recurrence of the infection, and 1 out of every 9 patients age 65 or older with a healthcare-associated C. difficile infection died within 30 days of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, healthcare facilities employ dedicated professionals who advocate for improving health and promoting patient and staff safety in order to minimize and prevent C. difficile; and

WHEREAS, improved health practices, such as thorough hand hygiene, and environmental cleaning can significantly reduce the risk and spread of C. difficile infections; and

WHEREAS, ensuring the education of healthcare workers on proper infection prevention techniques is proven to reduce all types of healthcare-associated infections;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim November 2017, as

C. difficile (Clostridium difficile) Infection Awareness 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 11th day of
October 2017.*

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor