



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, Alabama is blessed with outstanding opportunities for people to escape the indoors by participating in safe and healthy fun in our great outdoors in the company of family and in the company of old and new friends; and*

*WHEREAS, our kids today spend an average of 10 hours a day in front of a screen and outdoor activity is touted by many leading health organizations as a remedy for the adverse effects caused by our increasing inactivity; and*

*WHEREAS, diverse Great Outdoors Month events, including American Hiking Society's National Trails Day, National Get Outdoors Day, the Great Outdoors Day of Service, the Great American Campout, Kids to Parks Day, "TouchSomeFun" events, Bike Travel Weekend and more, help introduce citizens of all ages to healthy fun outdoors; and*

*WHEREAS, other events during Great Outdoors Month, such as National Fishing and Boating Week and National Marina Days provide all of us, especially our children, with exciting opportunities for recreation on the great waters of our state; and*

*WHEREAS, the economic impact of outdoor recreation is both large and growing nationally, where it accounts for 2% of Gross Domestic Products (GDP) according to the federal government, and in our state, where it is responsible for \$14 billion in consumer spending and directly supports some 135,000 jobs according to the Outdoor Industry Association; and*

*WHEREAS, from the beaches of the Gulf Coast to the trails of the Appalachian foothills, Alabama's state parks, national park units, national forests and more reflect every facet of the state's rich natural and cultural heritage; and*

*WHEREAS, enjoyment of our Great Outdoors allows us to celebrate the commitment of our state to conserve and protect our air, our water, our wildlife and our lands and contribute to conservation efforts through various licenses, taxes and fees; and*

*WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Month allows us to celebrate the partnership of federal, state and local agencies, the recreation and tourism industries and recreationists which makes outdoor recreation opportunities available, and adds new and needed features, such as improved trails through the Recreational Trails Program and the Land and Water Conservation Fund;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim June 2018, as*

# Great Outdoors Month

*in the State of Alabama and urge all citizens and visitors from other states and countries to Escape the Indoors by exploring and enjoying, protecting and conserving Alabama's Great Outdoors.*

*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 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018.*

*Kay Ivey*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kay Ivey, Governor

