



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS*, our nation's military men and women have given the ultimate sacrifice to protect our country, our people, and our livelihood; and

*WHEREAS*, we believe that the United States of America is the land of the free because of the brave; and

*WHEREAS*, our nation's bravest battle daily to cope with the effects of war through struggles such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, physical disabilities and suicide; and

*WHEREAS*, the daily suicide rate is at an average of 22 veterans a day. While veterans struggling with other life-altering disabilities commit suicide at a much higher number; and

*WHEREAS*, far too often, Americans fail to adequately show our appreciation for the service and sacrifice that was given so that we may have the freedom to live the lives we choose; and

*WHEREAS*, the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity at Troy University has committed itself to supporting our veterans in an attempt to relieve the pain of these aforementioned struggles for our nation's military through "Walk Hard"; and

*WHEREAS*, "Walk Hard" is a 128.3-mile, six-day hike from Troy, Alabama to Panama City Beach, Florida that will be completed by 34 brothers of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity in the hopes of showing immense gratitude and respect for those who gave so much; and

*WHEREAS*, the fraternity has founded "Walk Hard" as an annual philanthropy event to raise funds and awareness for wounded veterans to benefit Jeep Sullivan's Wounded Warrior Outdoor Adventures, Inc.; and

*WHEREAS*, the money raised will be used to create a community for veterans struggling with the after effects of war; allowing them to support and count on one another in a way that might not be possible without Jeep Sullivan's Wounded Warrior Outdoor Adventures, Inc., and the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity; and

*WHEREAS*, the brothers of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity will embark on the journey of "Walk Hard" from Friday, March 9 through Wednesday, March 14, 2018;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim March 9, 2018, as

# Walk Hard Day

in the State of Alabama, and encourage all citizens to support military personnel upon their return from duty, and to honor their service and sacrifice.



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 5th day of March 2018.

*Kay Ivey*  
Kay Ivey, Governor