



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama joins communities across the nation in recognizing Dolly Parton's enduring commitment to children's literacy and her efforts to ensure young people have access to books and the joy of reading by proclaiming September 25, 2026, as Dolly Day; and

WHEREAS, Dolly Parton founded her Imagination Library in 1995 in her home county of Sevier County, Tennessee. Since its beginning, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has gone from a local project mailing 1,760 books in one Tennessee county to a global program that has gifted over 304 million free books worldwide; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Governor Ivey signed Executive Order 729 establishing a statewide Imagination Library network in Alabama – expanding access to families in all 67 counties; and

WHEREAS, Dolly Day not only recognizes Dolly Parton's commitment to childhood literacy, but also honors the families, educators, community partners and supporters across Alabama who continue her mission by helping put books into the hands and homes of the state's youngest learners; and

WHEREAS, I encourage families and communities across the state to take part in Dolly Day by enrolling eligible children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Alabamians can also mark the occasion by reading with a child, sharing the joy of books or making a contribution to their local Imagination Library program to help provide books to children in communities across the state; and

WHEREAS, Alabama is committed to continuing Dolly's mission to inspire a lifelong love of reading and give every child a strong start in their educational journey:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 25, 2026, as

Dolly Day

in the state of Alabama. I urge all Alabamians to celebrate every child's unique story by giving them the gift of a book and the freedom to dream.



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 25th day of September 2026.

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor