



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, the role of the ombuds originated over 200 years ago in Sweden, designated as a government official charged with advocating on behalf of citizens with complaints or problems with the government; and

WHEREAS, today's ombuds are confidential, independent and impartial conflict management professionals who work to address individual and systemic issues outside of and complementary to formal channels such as human resources, grievances, complaints and legal action; and

WHEREAS, ombuds work in a wide variety of organizations within the state of Alabama and worldwide, including universities and colleges, governments at all levels, healthcare institutions, corporations, financial institutions, for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, the media and international organizations; and

WHEREAS, ombuds programs provide a valuable form of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and significant value to the constituents and institutions they serve and are an essential supplement to formal conflict management processes that address allegedly inappropriate or wrongful conduct; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Workforce Ombuds Program benefits employers and employees alike; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program provides consumer protection advocacy services to individuals residing in long-term care facilities consisting of nursing homes, assisted living facilities, specialty care facilities and boarding homes; and

WHEREAS, recognition of this day is an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the profession, highlight the value ombuds bring to the organizations and constituents they serve, as well as to encourage the greater use of ombuds programs; and

WHEREAS, citizens of Alabama are encouraged to become familiar with the ombuds profession and the professional in this role across sectors and to make use of these essential services as needed; and

WHEREAS, the American Bar Association has declared October 8, 2026, Ombuds Day with the theme of "Ombuds: Office of Options:"

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 8, 2026, as

Ombuds Day

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 8th day of October 2026.

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor