Proclamation
By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event that is held on August 31st of each year to remember those gone too soon from overdose deaths; and

WHEREAS, like many states, Alabama is fighting concurrent epidemics – while prescription opioids are driving deaths in rural areas, illicit opioid drugs are the primary drivers of deaths in suburban and urban areas; and

WHEREAS, Alabama encourages communities to develop and support local coalitions because this epidemic looks different in various parts of the state, and local engagement and leadership is imperative; and

WHEREAS, culture change happens in neighborhoods and local communities, and localities play a major role in assisting with the removal of the stigma of addiction and the normalization of recovery; and

WHEREAS, our dedicated treatment providers work tirelessly to help individuals with substance use disorders recover; and

WHEREAS, addiction is not a moral failing but a complex and treatable disease, and a life of recovery is possible; and

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day is an opportunity for all Alabamians to stand beside those who have lost loved ones to an overdose and those who have a substance use disorder and are diligently working toward recovery;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2020, as

International Overdose Awareness 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 11th day of June 2020.

Kay Ivey, Governor