

## **Proclamation**By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, the state of Alabama seeks to promote, protect and improve the health of individuals and communities of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has declared the week of November 12<sup>th</sup> through November 18<sup>th</sup>, U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week as a way to improve antibiotic stewardship through key human and animal health providers and other stakeholders in collaboration with state-based programs; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Public Health's Healthcare Associated Infections program is dedicated to the reduction of antibiotic resistance, a major threat to the public health; and

WHEREAS, more than 2 million people become ill each year with antibiotic-resistant infections and at least 23,000 dies as a result; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistance is caused by the overuse and misuse of antibiotics in general and the overuse of selected agents in particular; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has developed recommendations for health care professionals regarding best practices for the judicious use of antibiotics as well as educational materials for healthcare professionals, veterinarians and the public; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week provides an opportunity to highlight the messages of the Alabama Department of Public Health and CDC to promote the judicious use of antibiotics by consumers, healthcare professionals and veterinarians; and

WHEREAS, appropriate use of antibiotics in people and animals is a key solution to addressing the threat of antibiotic resistance; and

WHEREAS, education about appropriate antibiotic use and changed attitudes and practices of healthcare professionals, veterinarians and the public alike will contribute to appropriate antibiotic prescribing and use;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim November 12-

18, 2018, as

## Antibiotic Awareness Week

in the State of Alabama and urge all citizens, healthcare professionals and public health workers to observe this week with activities that raise awareness about appropriate antibiotic prescribing and use.



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 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018.

Kay Ivey, Governor