

Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, 351,461 veterans call the State of Alabama home, meaning one in ten Alabamians has boldly answered the call of duty to defend our independence and precious liberties as Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen; and

WHEREAS, a national crisis has emerged with regards to veteran suicide, which is claiming the lives of an estimated 22 veterans each day; and

WHEREAS, a committed group of student veterans—led by Micah "Slade" Salmon and Justin Schwab—have marched an impressive 150 miles from the University of Alabama to Auburn University as a call to our state's conscious on this issue; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion, the nation's oldest veterans service organization, has sponsored this important, 150-mile trek and chartered Capstone Post 1831 on the University of Alabama campus, led by Commander Derwin Dubose; and

WHEREAS, if any Alabama veteran is considering suicide, or if anyone is concerned that a loved one is considering suicide, they should call The Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 to speak to trained counselors and access immediately available resources; and

WHEREAS, each warrior who fights for our nation—along with their families—has earned Alabama's eternal gratitude, my full support and prayers, and the support of this administration;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim November 30, 2019, as

Operation Iron Ruck 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 14th day of November 2019.

Kay Ivey, Governor