

## Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, there are grandparents who take on a traditional role in the lives of their grandchildren, who are empty-nesters and come and go as they please; and

WHEREAS, kinship is best defined as the raising of children by grandparents, other extended family members and adults with whom they have a close family-like relationship such as godparents and close family friends because biological parents are unable to do so for various reasons; and

WHEREAS, kinship occurs for many reasons, although, drug-related issues and other unfortunate circumstances are the catalysts all too often in the state of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, parents voluntarily terminate their custody, or the courts take away custodial rights from biological parents, and grandparents often take on the responsibility of raising their grandchildren in an everyday capacity; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, 7.8 million children live in a home headed by one of 2.7 million Grandparents who care for their grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, 32% of grandparents in the state of Alabama are raising their relatives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as

## Grandparents 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 8<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.

Kay Ivey, Governor