

## **Proclamation**

## By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, quality afterschool programs and opportunities provide safe and engaging learning experiences, support working families, build stronger communities and engage families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs provide critical support for the academic growth and well-being of youth and offer new experiences and opportunities that help young people learn and grow. Afterschool programs provide innovative, hands-on opportunities for youth to engage in learning and connect with caring adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment; and

WHEREAS, Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 26, 2023, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities; and

WHEREAS, nearly 25 million families report that they would enroll their child in an afterschool program if one were available. Data shows that for every child in a program, four are waiting to get in; and

WHEREAS, Alabama is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by supporting expanded learning opportunities that help our children learn and grow, while helping them develop the skills essential for success in life and work;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 26, 2023, as

## Lights On Afterschool 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 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023.

Kay Ivey, Governor