

Executive Department State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor **Proclamation**

State Capital Boise

WHEREAS, rural communities in Idaho and throughout the United States are wonderful places to live and work. They are places where people know each other, listen to, and respect each other and work together to benefit the community; and

WHEREAS, rural America is the economic engine that helped the United States become the world leader it is today; and

WHEREAS, rural citizens possess a selfless, creative, community-minded spirit; and

WHEREAS, meeting the unique healthcare needs of those citizens is constantly evolving, as rural communities face accessibility issues, a lack of healthcare providers, an aging population suffering from a greater number of chronic conditions, and larger percentages of un- and underinsured citizens; and

WHEREAS, ambulatory and emergency medical services are especially critical in rural America, where 20 percent of the nation's population lives but where the majority of trauma deaths occur; and

WHEREAS, rural hospitals, in addition to being sources of innovation and resourcefulness that reach beyond geographical boundaries to deliver quality care, are also typically the economic foundation of their communities; and

WHEREAS, being a rural healthcare provider provides tremendous opportunities to offer more comprehensive, compassionate, patient-centered, and holistic care to patients; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Rural Health Association and the Idaho Bureau of Rural Health and Primary Care play a distinct and critical role by leading efforts to address the unique healthcare needs of our rural citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRAD LITTLE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim November 16, 2023, to be

NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH DAY

in Idaho, and I encourage Idaho citizens to recognize this special observance.

PHIL MCGRANE SECRETARY OF STATE IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 16th day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-eighth, and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred thirty-fourth.

BRAD LITTLE GOVERNOR