



# Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, Purple Heart Day, recognized on August 7<sup>th</sup> each year, commemorates the creation of the oldest American military decoration for military merit, honoring the men and women who were wounded or killed while serving in the U.S. military; and*

*WHEREAS, General George Washington created the Badge of Merit in 1782, intending the honor to be presented to soldiers for "any singularly meritorious action," symbolizing the badge to highlight the courage and devotion of an American patriot; and*

*WHEREAS, the sacrifices that such members of the United States Armed Forces and of the family members that support them have preserved the liberties that have enriched this nation, as each state of our great nation has uniquely made its homeland a "home" for those we hold so dear in appreciation for their service -- for in this way, we are most certainly the land of the free and home of the brave; and*

*WHEREAS, more than 2 million heroes have received the Purple Heart, including more than 35,000 service members for wounds sustained in the war in Iraq and more than 7,000 for the war in Afghanistan; and*

*WHEREAS, here in Alabama, we are deeply proud of our rich history and our role in the American story. We honor our veterans, we support our military and we work to ensure that we are the most military-friendly state in the nation; and*

*WHEREAS, Alabamians are proud to stand for the American flag, sing the national anthem and recognize and respect those who valiantly fought for us. We will always stand with our veterans and their families, forever in their debt; and*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim August 7, 2024, as*

# Purple Heart 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of August 2024.*

*Kay Ivey*  
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Kay Ivey, Governor