



WHEREAS, rural communities in Colorado and throughout the United States are great places to live, work, and volunteer; and

WHEREAS, around 66 million people (20% of the population) and 97% of the country's land area are considered rural; and

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of our citizens are of utmost importance to our great state; and

WHEREAS, rural communities often face accessibility issues, health care provider shortages, transportation barriers, an aging population suffering from a greater number of chronic conditions, and larger percentages of un- and underinsured residents; and

WHEREAS, rural communities are resilient, resourceful, innovative, and collaborative, addressing local challenges with creative solutions; and

WHEREAS, rural America is a great place for dedicated health professionals to deliver essential health services and provide comprehensive, individualized care; and

WHEREAS, National Rural Health Day, celebrated annually on the third Thursday of November, serves as a reminder of the unique needs and opportunities that rural communities face in accessing quality health care services;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim November 21, 2024, as

RURAL HEALTH DAY

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this twenty-first day of November, 2024



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis
Governor