

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

WHEREAS, nearly 61 million people (19.7% of the population) and 86% 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, healthcare provider shortages, transportation barriers, an aging population managing 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

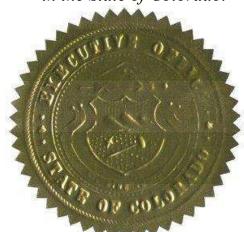
WHEREAS, rural America is a great place for dedicated health professionals to deliver essential health services and provide comprehensive, individualized care; and

WHEREAS, National Rural Health Day serves as a reminder of the unique needs and opportunities that rural communities face in accessing quality healthcare services;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim November 16, 2023, as

RURAL HEALTH DAY

in the State of Colorado.



GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this sixteenth day of November, 2023

Jared Polis Governor