



## Proclamation

*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*



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

*Jared Polis  
Governor*