



John Bel Edwards

GOVERNOR

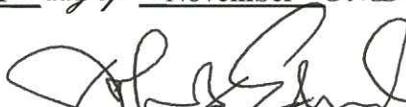
Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** rural communities in Louisiana and throughout the United States are wonderful places to live and work and they are places where people listen to/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,** being a rural health care provider such as, Critical Access Hospital, Small Rural Hospital, Rural Health Clinic, Federally Qualified Health Center provides tremendous opportunities to offer more comprehensive, compassionate, patient-centered care; and
- WHEREAS,** meeting the unique healthcare needs of residents living in rural communities is constantly evolving, as rural communities are faced with accessibility issues, a lack of healthcare providers, an aging population suffering from a greater number of chronic conditions, high poverty, and larger percentages of uninsured and under insured citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** recognition should be given to the dedication of the health care professionals, volunteers, and all other health care organizations who work diligently to improve the quality of life throughout the rural communities across the nation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals' Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health, the Louisiana Rural Health Association, the Louisiana Hospital Association, the Louisiana Rural Hospital Coalition, the Louisiana Primary Care Association, and the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health play a distinct and critical role by leading efforts to address the unique health care needs of our rural citizens.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** **I, John Bel Edwards,** Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim November 17, 2016 as

RURAL HEALTH DAY
in the State of Louisiana.



*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand
officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State
of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge,
on this 1ST day of November A.D., 2016.*



Governor of Louisiana