GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A. DUCEY

STATE OF ARIZONA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, rural communities in Arizona and throughout the United States are privileged places to live and work — they are places where people know each other, listen to each other and work together to benefit the community; and

WHEREAS, Arizona's rural population continues to grow rapidly; and

WHEREAS, rural Arizona is an important economic engine that helps to drive Arizona as a national leader in its recognition and contributions to rural residents; and

WHEREAS, rural residents possess a selfless, creative, community-minded spirit; and

WHEREAS, meeting the unique healthcare needs of those residents is constantly evolving, as rural communities face accessibility issues, a shortage of healthcare providers, an aging population, many of whom suffer from chronic conditions, and large percentages of uninsured and underinsured citizens; and

WHEREAS, ambulatory and emergency medical services are especially critical in rural Arizona. Rural health education and training programs and services are vital to preparing a rural health workforce; and

WHEREAS, rural hospitals and clinics are often the economic foundation of these communities in addition to being their primary providers of health care; and

WHEREAS, rural healthcare systems create valuable opportunities that offer comprehensive, compassionate, patient-centered and holistic care to patients; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Rural Health Association plays a distinct and critical role by advocating on behalf of the needs of our rural citizens. The Arizona Rural Health Association, in partnership with community and state organizations and state educational institutions, promotes the health and well-being of rural Arizona; and

WHEREAS, Arizona's rural residents, the healthcare systems that serve them, and the friends who advocate on their behalf are recognized herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim November 17, 2022 as

RURAL HEALTH DAY

in Arizona and encourage citizens to recognize the unique contributions and selfless "can do" attitudes of our rural communities, the unique health care needs and opportunities that exist in these communities, and the Arizona Rural Health Association for the valuable representation and support it provides to rural people and rural services that address the needs and opportunities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

[Signature]
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this fifteenth day of September in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Two and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Seventh.

ATTEST:

[Signature]
SECRETARY OF STATE