

## STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, rural communities in New Mexico and throughout the United States are wonderful places to live and work – they are places where people know each other, listen to/respect each other and work together to benefit the community; and

WHEREAS, this year they continue to show their dedication to truly addressing the issues of rural health by providing quality care and resources at the right place and the right time for our fellow New Mexicans during this time; and

WHEREAS, ambulatory and emergency medical services are especially critical in rural America, where only 20% of the nation's population lives but where the majority of trauma deaths occur; and

WHEREAS, small rural hospitals and critical access hospitals – in addition to being sources of innovation and resourcefulness that reach beyond geographical boundaries to deliver quality care – are also typically the economic foundation of their communities; and

WHEREAS, being a rural healthcare provider provides tremendous opportunities to offer more comprehensive, compassionate, patient-centered, and holistic care to patients; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Department of Health's Office of Primary Care and Rural Health and the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health play a distinct and critical role by leading efforts to address the unique healthcare needs of our rural citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim November 18, 2021 as:

## "Rural Health Day"

throughout the state of New Mexico.

Attest:

Maggio Toulouse Oliver Secretary of State Done at the Executive Office this 1st day of October 2021.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Mexico.

Michelle Lujan Grisham Governor