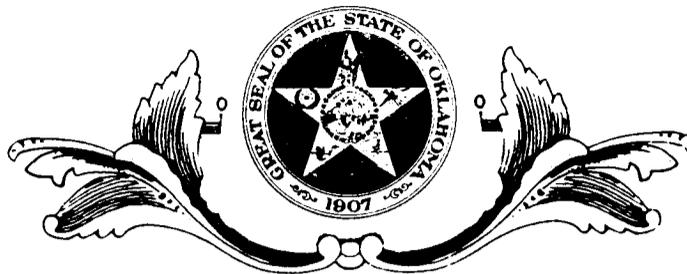


# STATE OF OKLAHOMA

FILED

OCT 26 2012

OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE



## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

# Proclamation

*Whereas, rural communities in Oklahoma and throughout the United States are wonderful places to live and work, they are places where people know each other, listen to and respect each other, and work together to benefit the community; and approximately half of Oklahoma's people live in rural areas; and*

*Whereas, meeting the unique healthcare needs of those citizens is constantly evolving as rural communities face accessibility issues, a lack of healthcare providers, an aging population suffering from a great number of chronic conditions, and larger percentages of uninsured and underinsured citizens; and*

*Whereas, emergency medical services are especially critical in rural America, where twenty percent of the nation's population live, but nearly sixty percent of all trauma deaths occur. Rural 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, with every dollar spent generating about \$2.20 for the local economy; and*

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

*Now, therefore, I, Mary Fallin, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim November 15, 2012 as*

### **"Rural Health Day"**

*in the State of Oklahoma and encourage citizens to recognize the unique healthcare needs and opportunities that exist in those communities, and recognize the Oklahoma Office of Rural Health, Oklahoma State University Center for Rural Health, the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health, and the National Rural Health Association for the valuable services they provide to address those needs and opportunities.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.*

*Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and twelve, and of the State of Oklahoma in the one hundred one fourth year.*



ATTEST:

Assistant

*Michelle R. Day*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*Mary Fallin*  
GOVERNOR

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