

Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, rural communities in South Dakota and throughout the United States are great places to live, work, and volunteer; and,

Whereas, in South Dakota, approximately 57% of South Dakotans live in rural areas. Out of 66 counties, 30 are rural, and 34 are frontier; and,

Whereas, the health and wellbeing 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 suffering from a greater number of chronic conditions, and larger percentages of uninsured and underinsured citizens; and,

Whereas, rural communities are resilient, resourceful, innovative, and collaborative, addressing local challenges with creative solutions; and,

Whereas, rural South Dakota is a great place for dedicated health professionals to deliver essential health services and provide comprehensive, individualized care; and,

Whereas, individuals, organizations, businesses, and community leaders should support initiatives focused on improving rural healthcare access, addressing health disparities, and strengthening rural healthcare systems:

Now, Therefore, I, Kristi Noem, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 21, 2024, as

RURAL HEALTH DAY

in South Dakota and encourage citizens to join me in celebrating the "Power of Rural" and recognizing the vital contributions and achievements of healthcare providers, organizations, and other stakeholders serving rural areas.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Nineteenth Day of November in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.



Kristi Noem
Kristi Noem, Governor

Attest:

Monae L. Johnson
Monae L. Johnson, Secretary of State