

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the health and welfare of rural Pennsylvanians affects our entire Commonwealth with all but two of our state's sixty-seven counties having rural residents and forty-eight counties being predominately rural; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of our Commonwealth's diverse rural needs, Pennsylvania has supported the development of the Center for Rural Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health, and other agencies and organizations to address the needs of rural Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has also supported the development of centers and resources for quality health care services such as the Area Health Education Centers, Primary Health and Dental Care Clinics, and community-based efforts to deliver health care services to rural Pennsylvanians; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Health's State Health Improvement Plan contains strategies to address the needs and opportunities that present themselves in our rural communities; and

WHEREAS, associations have worked to strengthen the local health care delivery system through strong rural hospitals and community-based centers of primary care; and

WHEREAS, supporting Pennsylvania communities who are not able to supply or retain core medical services is essential to the health and welfare of the Commonwealth as a whole.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim November 17-21, 2025, as

RURAL HEALTH WEEK

and encourage heightened awareness of the full range of issues that impact health care in rural Pennsylvania.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-third day of October two thousand twenty-five, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred fiftieth.

Governor Josh Shapiro