

*The State of New Hampshire*  
*By His Excellency*  
*Christopher T. Sununu, Governor*

*A Proclamation*

In the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Three

**RURAL HEALTH DAY**  
**NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

**WHEREAS**, rural communities in New Hampshire are great places to live, work and volunteer; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly half of New Hampshire's population and 90% of the state's land area are considered rural; and

**WHEREAS**, the health and well-being of our citizens are of utmost importance to our great state and we urge individuals, organizations, businesses, and community leaders to support public health initiatives focused on improving rural healthcare access, innovative partnerships, and access to opportunity and good health for everyone; and

**WHEREAS**, rural communities often face unique challenges including healthcare provider shortages, transportation barriers, and social and geographic isolation; and

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

**WHEREAS**, rural New Hampshire is fortunate to have high quality critical access hospitals, Emergency Medical Services, Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics all with dedicated health professionals that deliver essential health services and provide caring, comprehensive, individualized care; and

**WHEREAS**, National Rural Health Day celebrated annually on the third Thursday of November, serves as a reminder of the unique needs and opportunities that rural communities face in accessing quality healthcare services;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR** of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **NOVEMBER 16, 2023** as **RURAL HEALTH DAY** in the State of New Hampshire, 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 TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of New Hampshire to be affixed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.



Christopher T. Sununu  
Governor

