



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

WHEREAS, rural communities in Idaho 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

WHEREAS, rural America is the economic engine that helped the United States become the world leader it is today; and

WHEREAS, rural citizens possess a selfless, creative, community-minded spirit; 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 struggling with more chronic conditions and larger percentages of uninsured and underinsured citizens; and

WHEREAS, ambulatory and emergency medical services are especially critical in rural America, where 20 percent of the nation’s population lives but nearly 60 percent of all trauma deaths occur; and

WHEREAS, rural hospitals – in addition to being sources of innovation and resourcefulness that reach beyond geographical boundaries to deliver quality care –also are 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 provides tremendous opportunities to offer more comprehensive, compassionate, patient-centered and holistic care to patients; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Office of 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, C.L. “BUTCH” OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim November 17th, 2016 to be

NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH DAY

in Idaho and encourage citizens to honor our rural communities as wonderful places to live and work in good health.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 17th of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand and sixteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-first and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-seventh.



C.L. “BUTCH” OTTER
GOVERNOR

LAWRENCE DENNEY
SECRETARY OF STATE