WHEREAS, New Jersey Rural Communities represents approximately 700,000 rural citizens that face unique healthcare challenges by collaborating with partnerships that focus on each rural communities' infrastructure, resources and environment; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Rural Communities is a place where people from all walks of life come together to listen, respect and help each other overcome the health and social concerns within rural communities; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Rural Communities make up nine percent of the state's population that face health disparities, aging populations, high rates of chronic diseases, substance use and transportation issues; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Rural Communities have committed healthcare providers, hospitals, Federal Qualified Health Centers, and organizations that come together to provide resources and quality, comprehensive, compassionate and patient-centered care; and

WHEREAS, "Rural Health Week 2021" is a statewide event from November 15 through November 19, 2021 with the theme “Power of Rural: bringing to light the unique healthcare challenges that rural New Jerseyans face and showcasing the efforts of rural healthcare providers and other rural stakeholders to address those challenges;” and

WHEREAS, the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health and the New Jersey Rural Health Advisory Council are proud to recognize the innovation, quality of care and dedication of our rural partners and stakeholders;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

NOVEMBER 15 THROUGH NOVEMBER 19, 2021
AS
RURAL HEALTH WEEK

in New Jersey.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this tenth day of November in the year two thousand twenty-one, the two hundred forty-sixth year of the Independence of the United States.