WHEREAS, The Kentucky Rural Health Association was founded in 1999 with the mission of "Improving the health of Kentuckians through education and advocacy; and,

WHEREAS, The Kentucky Rural Health Association has been faithful to its two main goals of educating members on rural health issues and serving as an advocate for equitable access to health care for the citizens of rural Kentucky; and,

WHEREAS, The Kentucky Rural Health Association has over 900 members representing all 1.8 million rural Kentuckians; and,

WHEREAS, The Kentucky Rural Health Association provides educational conferences, workshops, and seminars to meet the needs of critical access hospitals, rural health clinics, rural hospitals, rural health departments, rural consumers, local officials and health professions educators; and,

WHEREAS, The Kentucky Rural Health Association sponsors a Student Rural Health Association to develop leadership and community service opportunities; and,

WHEREAS, The Kentucky Rural Health Association hosts an annual Legislative Day at the Capitol for legislators, rural providers and educators, and residents who are the voice for rural Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, today represents the start of the 18th annual Kentucky Rural Health Association Conference.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Bowling Green Board of Commissioners and Warren County Fiscal Court, do hereby proclaim August 25th, 2016 as

Kentucky Rural Health Association Day

and call upon all residents of Bowling Green and Warren County to observe this day by recognizing the health care industry is one of the largest employers in a rural community and serves as a significant driver of economic development by retaining health care expenditures at the local level; attracting external dollars from all health care payment systems; retaining existing local businesses and attracting new businesses; and promoting a healthy and productive workforce within a community.