

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The state of Arkansas has long been concerned with the health of its citizens; and

WHEREAS: Chronic lung diseases, known collectively as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), are the third leading cause of death in the United States, with over 119,000 Americans dying from these diseases each year; and

WHEREAS: Smoking is the leading cause of chronic lung disease and is the largest contributor to death for people with chronic lung disease; and

WHEREAS: Chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases cost the United States an estimated \$31.9 billion a year; and

WHEREAS: 16 million people in the United States have been diagnosed with some form of COPD, and a similar number are undiagnosed; and

WHEREAS: Awareness, early detection, and treatment are crucial in the prevention or slowing of the spread of lung disease in this country; and

WHEREAS: The citizens of Arkansas deserve the opportunity to grow, thrive, be healthy and be informed and aware of their respiratory health and of the factors that affect that health;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim November 2017, as

CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

across the State, and I urge all citizens to help raise awareness about the prevalence of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and the serious effects associated with the disease.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 25th day of August, in the year of our Lord 2017.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor



Mark Martin, Secretary Of State