

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Smoking remains the single most preventable cause of premature death in our society; and

WHEREAS: Tobacco use in Arkansas results in the loss of 2.9 billion dollars in direct medical and economic productivity costs annually; and

WHEREAS: For years, millions of smokers have participated in the Great American Smokeout, a day on which they give up cigarettes for 24 hours; and

WHEREAS: Some of those who give up cigarettes for the day may go on to give up the habit entirely; and

WHEREAS: Quitting smoking is proven to improve health, reduce disease burden, and increase longevity; and

WHEREAS: By virtue of the above, the Great American Smokeout has potential for improving 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 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 as

**GREAT AMERICAN SMOKEOUT IN ARKANSAS**

across the State, and I encourage all tobacco users to demonstrate they can quit for the day and perhaps longer.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September, in the year of our Lord 2017.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor



Attest:



Mark Martin, Secretary Of State