TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME – GREETINGS:

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER ESTABLISHING THE ARKANSAS CENSUS 2020 COMPLETE-COUNT COMMITTEE FOR THE 2020 CENSUS

WHEREAS: Article I of the United States Constitution, as amended by the Fourteenth Amendment, requires an enumeration of the population every ten (10) years in the form of a census, with the next decennial count scheduled to occur on or about April 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS: United States Congressmen and Congresswomen shall be apportioned to the states according to their respective populations, which are to be determined by adding the whole number of persons in each state pursuant to Article I of the United States Constitution and the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS: The Board of Apportionment redistricts the Arkansas General Assembly after every decennial census using the final enumeration results gathered by the United States Census Bureau pursuant to Article VIII of the Arkansas Constitution, the Twenty-third Amendment to the Arkansas Constitution, and the Forty-fifth Amendment to the Arkansas Constitution; and

WHEREAS: The Arkansas General Assembly determines the Congressional Districts for the State of Arkansas census using the final enumeration results gathered by the United States Census Bureau pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 7-2-101 et seq.; and

WHEREAS: Direct Taxes shall be apportioned to the states according to their respective populations, which are to be determined by adding the whole number of persons in each state pursuant to Article I of the United States Constitution and the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS: The United States Census Bureau estimates the State of Arkansas has seen over a three percent (3.4%) increase in total population since the last decennial census, which occurred on April 1, 2010; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas surpassed 3,000,000 residents in 2017 and has since grown by under half a percent (0.4%) to roughly 3,013,825 residents; and

WHEREAS: An undercount of Arkansas residents could pose a significant loss to the State in federal assistance, where even a one percent (1%) undercount would equate to an estimated loss of $990,000,000 in federal assistance funding formula grant allocations for the next decade; and

WHEREAS: An accurate count of Arkansas residents is paramount to ensure the State of Arkansas receives a fair allocation of representation in the Nation’s Capital and a fair allocation of resources to fund many of the federal, state, and local programs Arkansas residents utilize each and every year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, acting under the authority vested in me, do hereby amend executive order EO 19-12, dated August 28, 2019, and order and commission the following:

1. The Arkansas Census 2020 Complete-Count Committee (the “Committee”) is hereby established.
2. The Committee shall advise the Governor on how to best reach hard-to-count communities within the State and collaborate with municipal and county governments to form local complete-count committees.

3. Members of the Committee will be appointed by the Governor and will serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

4. Members of the Committee shall volunteer their time and serve without compensation.

5. The Committee shall meet upon the call of the Chair and shall meet at least monthly until December 31, 2020 or until this Order is amended, modified, or rescinded by another Executive Order.

6. The Committee shall be composed of the following members, one of which will serve as Chair and where the Director of the Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Office will serve as Vice Chair:

   a. A Committee Chair;
   b. A Governor’s Office Liaison;
   c. An Attorney General’s Office Liaison;
   d. A Secretary of State’s Office Liaison;
   e. A State Representative belonging to the Majority Party of the Arkansas House of Representatives;
   f. A State Representative belonging to the Minority Party of the Arkansas House of Representatives;
   g. A State Senator belonging to the Majority Party of the Arkansas Senate;
   h. A State Senator belonging to the Minority Party of the Arkansas Senate;
   i. The Secretary of the Department of Veteran’s Affairs, or his designee;
   j. The Secretary of the Department of Education, or his designee;
   k. The Secretary of the Department of Human Services, or her designee;
   l. The Director of the Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Office, or his designee;
   m. The Director of the Arkansas Fair Housing Commission, or his designee;
   n. The Director of the Arkansas Educational Television Network, or her designee;
   o. The State Librarian, or her designee;
   p. A Chancellor from an institution of higher education in the State of Arkansas, or his or her designee;
   q. No less than six (6) county officials from six (6) different counties in the State of Arkansas;
   r. No less than six (6) mayors from municipalities across the State of Arkansas;
   s. A representative from the Arkansas Economic Development Institute;
   t. A representative from the Business Community in the State of Arkansas;
   u. No less than five (5) at-large citizen representatives from the State of Arkansas, as the Governor deems necessary, to represent their communities in the State’s census efforts.

7. The Committee shall be staffed by the Arkansas Census State Data Center, which shall provide support to the Arkansas Census 2020 Complete-Count Committee as necessary and shall collaborate with all other complete-count committees in the State of Arkansas upon request.

8. If any part of this Executive Order is found to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder shall remain in full force and effect.
9. The Arkansas Census 2020 Complete-Count Committee shall submit a census progress report to the Governor no later than November 1, 2019, a census day report to the Governor no later than April 1, 2020, and a final census report no later than December 31, 2020.

10. The census progress report shall document all efforts undertaken by the Committee to establish sufficient outreach with municipal and county complete-count committees and necessary next steps as the State prepares for the 2020 Decennial Census.

11. The census day report shall document all efforts undertaken by the Committee as well as the efforts of all local and independent complete-count committees in the State in anticipation of Census Day.

12. The final census report shall document all efforts undertaken by the Committee as well as the efforts of all local and independent complete-count committees in the State after Census Day and in anticipation of final apportionment counts by the United States Census Bureau.

13. This Order shall remain in effect until the final report is filed with the Governor, or until it is amended, modified, or rescinded by another Executive Order.

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 September, in the year of our Lord 2019.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

[Seal of the State of Arkansas]

John Thurston, Secretary Of State