

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: An omphalocele is a birth defect that occurs early in pregnancy in which the abdominal wall does not close properly and some or most of the abdominal organs protrude on the outside of the fetus' body through the umbilical cord; and

WHEREAS: It is estimated that a small omphalocele occurs in about one out of every 5,000 pregnancies and a large or giant omphalocele occurs in about 1 out of every 10,000 pregnancies; and

WHEREAS: An omphalocele may be isolated or may be associated with other defects or chromosomal abnormalities; and

WHEREAS: Despite the challenges a baby born with an omphalocele may face, many survive and go on to live happy, healthy lives; and

WHEREAS: Mothers of Omphaloceles (MOO) is a group of over 1,400 parents from around the world that was created to provide hope, support and information to families with babies diagnosed with an omphalocele;

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 January 31, 2015, as

INTERNATIONAL OMPHALOCELE AWARENESS DAY
IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I urge my fellow citizens to join me in recognizing the Mothers of Omphaloceles for their courageous efforts to advocate for their children and raise awareness that an omphalocele is a treatable condition.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 11th day of March, in the year of our Lord 2015.



ASA HUTCHINSON, GOVERNOR

Attest:



MARK MARTIN, SECRETARY OF STATE

