

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: In the 2011-2012 school year, only half of Arkansas students who were eligible for free or reduced-price school breakfast were participating. Now, more than sixty percent are starting their days with a health school breakfast as part of the school day; and

WHEREAS According to data from the white paper “Ending Childhood Hunger: A Social Impact Analysis,” if seventy percent of elementary and middle school children eating a free or reduced-price lunch were also getting school breakfast in Arkansas, it would have the potential impact of: 38,789 fewer absences per year, nearly 26,000 students scoring higher on standardized math tests every year and more than 6,400 additional high school graduates from Arkansas schools; and

WHEREAS: Breakfast helps to promote good health. Eating breakfast at school is associated with fewer visits to the school nurse, improved children’s diets, and building healthy eating habits, and children who start the day with breakfast are less likely to be obese; and

WHEREAS: The School Breakfast Program provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free breakfast to children each school day. The month of March has been set aside to raise awareness of the school breakfast program and its role as an effective way of helping our children compete, excel, and win in life;

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 March 2015, as

ARKANSAS SCHOOL BREAKFAST MONTH

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to recognize the important role of the school breakfast program in enhancing the lives of our children.

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



ASA HUTCHINSON, GOVERNOR

Attest:



MARK MARTIN, SECRETARY OF STATE

