

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines developmental disabilities as “a group of conditions due to an impairment in physical, learning, language, or behavior areas.” These conditions begin during the developmental period, may impact day-to-day functioning and usually last throughout a person’s lifetime; and

WHEREAS: Approximately 110,000 people in Arkansas have a developmental disability. These citizens share the desire, along with all of the state’s residents, to achieve personal success through education, meaningful work, and family and community ties; and

WHEREAS: Through training, support and encouragement many individuals with developmental disabilities become independent, productive citizens integrated into their communities; and

WHEREAS: Families of people with developmental disabilities deserve our admiration and recognition for their caring commitment and ongoing support that are both essential to an independent and productive life; and

WHEREAS: March has been set aside to promote awareness and understanding of the opportunities, challenges and needs of persons with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS: It is appropriate to honor those with developmental disabilities and to showcase the significant advances made in helping ensure the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with developmental disabilities in all aspects of society;

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

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

across the State, and I urge my fellow citizens to recognize and support all efforts to ensure that individuals with learning disabilities are empowered to learn, thrive and participate fully in society.

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

