

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Arkansas recognizes the importance of direct discussions between parents and teens about the dangers of alcohol; and

WHEREAS: High-school students who use alcohol or other substances are five times more likely to drop out of school or believe good grades are not important; and

WHEREAS: Twenty-seven percent of middle school students try alcohol before graduating from 8th grade, significantly increasing the risk that they will develop alcohol problems later in life; and

WHEREAS: Teen alcohol use kills about 4,700 people each year, more than all other illegal drugs combined; and

WHEREAS: The majority of teens say that their parents are the primary influences in their lives when it comes to making decisions about drinking alcohol; and

WHEREAS: PowerTalk 21[®] Day was established in 2011 by Mothers Against Drunk Driving[®] (MADD), and is being held this year on April 21 to encourages parents and caregivers to embrace their important role in influencing America's youth when it comes to their making decisions about drinking alcohol; and

WHEREAS: In 2015, MADD will kick off "21 Days in Support of 21", beginning on April 1st and culminating on PowerTalk 21[®] Day on April 21st, in order to create a sustained and prolonged national conversation about underage drinking;

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 April 21, 2015, as

POWERTALK 21[®] DAY

across the State, and I urge all citizens to join the local, state and national efforts to raise awareness of the importance of parents and teens talking together about alcohol in order to reduce the risks and dangers posed to teen and communities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 24th day of April, in the year of our Lord 2015.





Asa Hutchinson, Governor


Mark Martin, Secretary Of State