

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Throughout the United States, recreational boating brings with it fun and enjoyment, and Arkansans are fortunate that we have the wide variety of water resources that pleasure boating demands; and

WHEREAS: In Arkansas, the “Natural State,” where scenic and abundant streams, lakes and rivers draw many to relax and enjoy water sports and activities in the great outdoors, it is essential that boating enthusiasts recognize the importance of taking certain precautions, including always wearing life jackets and never operating a boat under the influence of alcohol; and

WHEREAS: Sadly, approximately 560 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the United States, and nearly 70 percent of these are fatalities caused by drowning. In Arkansas, there were nine reported accidents that resulted in nine fatalities, thirty-four injuries and more than \$439,000 in damages; and

WHEREAS: The vast majority of these accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment and not by the boat, equipment or environmental factors and many of these fatalities could have been prevented if life jackets had been worn; and

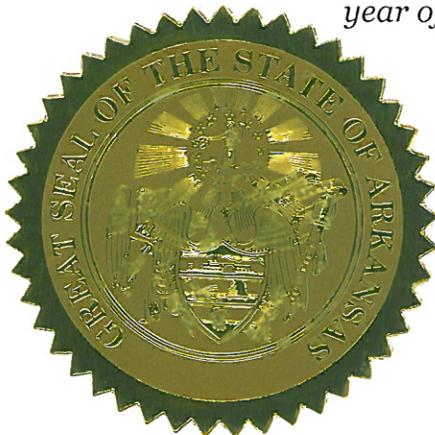
WHEREAS: Today’s life jackets are more comfortable, more attractive and more wearable than styles of years past and deserve a fresh look by today’s boating public;

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 May 16 through 22, 2015, as

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK IN ARKANSAS

across the State of Arkansas, and I urge each citizen who goes boating to take a life jacket along and to “WEAR IT!” while practicing safe boating, and enjoying time spent responsibly on the water.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 1st day of April, in the year of our Lord 2015.



Asa Hutchinson

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State