

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Cystic fibrosis (CF) is one of the most common life-threatening genetic diseases in the United States, affecting approximately 30,000 men, women and children in our Nation and 70,000 worldwide; and

WHEREAS: This inherited chronic disease is caused by a defective gene that affects the lungs and digestive system, leading to life-threatening lung infections, obstruction of the pancreas and keeping natural enzymes from helping the body break down and absorb food; and

WHEREAS: Though there is no known cure for cystic fibrosis, scientists and researchers have made great progress in understanding and treating this disease, significantly increasing the average life expectancy of those affected; and

WHEREAS: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend all states consider newborn screening for cystic fibrosis to facilitate early diagnosis and treatment, in turn improving health and life expectancy. Prompt, aggressive treatment of the symptoms of cystic fibrosis can extend the lives of those who have the disease; and

WHEREAS: Education of the public about cystic fibrosis increases knowledge and understanding of the illness and promotes early diagnosis;

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 August 26, 2015, as

**CYSTIC FIBROSIS DAY IN ARKANSAS**

across the State, and I urge all citizens to join me in raising awareness about this life threatening disease.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year of our Lord 2015.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State