

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The Arkansas Governor holds in high esteem each of the various branches that make up the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS: The National Guard was founded on December 13, 1636, by the Massachusetts General Court in the city of Salem to protect the more than 5,000 men, women, and children living in the Massachusetts Bay Colony; and

WHEREAS: On December 11, 2015, the men and women in uniform at the National Guard Professional Education Center, Camp Robinson, Arkansas, will celebrate the 379<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the National Guard, which has now grown into a worldwide military force that retains the core characteristics that enabled the early colonial settlers to meet the challenges of their uncertain world; and

WHEREAS: The leaders of the Massachusetts Bay Colony realized that self-sufficiency would prove to be instrumental in the longevity of their enterprise since the colonists had no money to pay mercenary fighters in the European tradition and the colonists did not want to depend upon the French or Spanish with their different views on religion and politics; and

WHEREAS: Militia service seemed a proper price to pay for the freedoms that were enjoyed in the early colonies; and

WHEREAS: Today's National Guard Soldiers and Airmen provide protection from natural disaster, train regularly to sharpen readiness skills and deploy to faraway countries to protect the national interests of the United States abroad;

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 December 11, 2015, as

THE 379<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL GUARD

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to join in applauding the history, goals and accomplishments associated with the National Guard.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, in the year of our Lord 2015.



  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

  
Mark Martin, Secretary Of State