

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: In both our State and the Nation, heart disease, which is often preventable, is the leading cause of death, and stroke is the third-leading cause of death; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas has the highest stroke-mortality rate in the country; and

WHEREAS: Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) claim the lives of approximately 11,000 Arkansans each year, while strokes claim 1,900 lives in our State annually; and

WHEREAS: In the United States, women account for 53 percent of all deaths from cardiovascular disease while 47 percent are men. In Arkansas, 400 more females than males die from stroke; and

WHEREAS: The direct and indirect costs of cardiovascular diseases in 2016, including stroke, are estimated to be \$503.2 billion in the United States and more than one-billion dollars in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Almost as many women die of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases than the next five-leading causes of death combined, including all cancers; and

WHEREAS: February is designated as American Heart Month with Go Red For Women as the Heart Association's call to women to increase their awareness of heart disease and to inspire them to take charge of their heart health; and

WHEREAS: All women are urged to find out about their own risk for heart disease, using tools such as the American Heart Association's Go Red For Women Heart CheckUp and by talking to their doctors;

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 Friday, February 5, 2016, as

NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY

across the State of Arkansas, and I urge all citizens to show their support for women's fight against heart disease by wearing red on this day. Thousands of lives can be saved each year by raising awareness and empowering women to reduce their risks for cardiovascular disease.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 19th day of January in the year of our Lord 2016.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Asa Hutchinson".

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mark Martin".

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State