STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: According to the National Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), over 1.7 million Americans sustain a traumatic brain injury each year, and over 52,000 of those individuals die as a result of their injuries; and

WHEREAS: The CDC also reports that more than 5.3 million Americans live with disabilities resulting from brain injury, including over 50,000 Arkansans; and

WHEREAS: The leading causes of traumatic brain injury are falls, motor vehicle and traffic accidents, sports related injuries, being struck by or against objects, and assaults, and is the 4th leading cause of death overall; and

WHEREAS: Today's service members are sustaining traumatic brain injuries in larger numbers than those serving in past conflicts; and

WHEREAS: The Arkansas Department of Health, as the lead state agency serving people with brain injury, works collaboratively with a broad coalition of organizations assisting individuals with traumatic brain injury to build a system of coordinated services for individuals with brain injury and their families; and

WHEREAS: Public awareness is important for the prevention of traumatic brain injuries and for enhancing the recovery process for all individuals affected by brain injuries;

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 March 2016, as

BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 10th day of January, in the year of our Lord 2016.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State