

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every community member of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impact our community as seen by statistics indicating that one in five women and one in 33 men will be raped at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS: Child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience a sexual assault before the age 18; and

WHEREAS: Young people experience heightened rates of sexual violence, and youth ages 12-17 were 2.5 times as likely to be victims of rape or sexual assault; and

WHEREAS: We must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; and

WHEREAS: With leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is evidence that we can be successful in preventing sexual violence in Arkansas through increased education, awareness, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners, and of every citizen, to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent sexual violence. It is time for all of us to start conversations, take appropriate action and support one another to create a safer environment for all;

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 the month of April 2016, as

SEXUAL ASSAULT 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 15th day of March, in the year of our Lord 2016.




Asa Hutchinson, Governor


Mark Martin, Secretary Of State