

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: May 14, 2016, marks the fourth annual Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day during which awareness will be raised throughout Arkansas about Childhood Apraxia of Speech, a particularly difficult, persistent and severe speech and communication disorder in youngsters; and

WHEREAS: Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) causes children to have extreme difficulty learning to speak and is among the most severe of speech and communication problems in children; and

WHEREAS: The act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, but those with apraxia endure an incredible and lengthy struggle; and

WHEREAS: That without appropriate intervention, children with apraxia are then placed at high risk for secondary impacts in literacy and other school-related skills; and

WHEREAS: That most children with apraxia of speech will learn to communicate with their very own voices only if they receive early intervention and appropriate, frequent speech therapy; and

WHEREAS: That it is imperative there be greater public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: We especially encourage funders, such as insurance providers and schools, to recognize the critical need to provide adequate speech therapy and other services so that the impact of this disorder can be minimized and so that affected children can grow into productive, contributing adult citizens; and

WHEREAS: That our highest respect goes to these children, as well as their families, for their effort, determination and resilience in the face of such obstacles;

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 May 14, 2016, as

APRAXIA AWARENESS DAY

and citizens of Arkansas are encouraged to work within their communities to increase awareness and understanding of Childhood Apraxia of Speech.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 23rd day of February, in the year of our Lord 2016.




Asa Hutchinson, Governor


Mark Martin, Secretary Of State