

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Dr. Thomas A. Bruce, a tireless proponent of community-based public health, provided both the vision and leadership in the realms of public health and public service on behalf of the state of Arkansas and its citizens; and

WHEREAS: The Arkansas native served at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences as the dean of the College of Medicine from 1974-1985 and encouraged the development of Arkansas Area Health Education Centers, now known as UAMS Regional Programs, which worked to increase access to health care to rural areas of the state; and

WHEREAS: Dr. Bruce was recruited by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to work around the world focusing on improving rural health systems and health care leadership, a job from which he retired in 1997 but continued to serve as a consultant and advisor; and

WHEREAS: He returned to Arkansas and was instrumental in the creation of the UAMS Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health with its focus on improving the health and well-being of all Arkansans and worked as the college's inaugural dean from 2001-2002; and

WHEREAS: Dr. Bruce worked to establish the opening of the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service and served as its dean pro tem in 2003-2004 and then as its associate dean for academic affairs until 2007; and

WHEREAS: Throughout his illustrious career, Dr. Bruce sat on the boards and councils of national health care organizations, including the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the March of Dimes, the Association of American Medical Colleges, and within the State sat on the boards of The Watershed Foundation, Heifer Project International, the Governor's Health Roundtable, Wildwood Park for the Arts, Garvan Woodland Gardens and the Arkansas Genealogical Society; and

WHEREAS: Dr. Bruce has received numerous honors, including an honored marker on the Arkansas Civil Rights Heritage Trail for a career spent promoting access to quality health care for minorities and all underserved populations, the Just Communities of Arkansas Humanitarian Award, induction into the UAMS College of Medicine Hall of Fame, recognition from the Arkansas House of Representatives for his work in establishing the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Arkansas Medical Society, a Visionary Public Health Award from the Arkansas Minority Health Commission, the Dr. David E. Bourne Award from the Arkansas Department of Health to recognize public health policy achievement, and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Medical Fellowships;

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 July 1, 2016, as

DR. THOMAS A. BRUCE DAY

in appreciation of many contributions of Dr. Bruce to the state of Arkansas and to its citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 26th day of February, in the year of our Lord 2016.


Asa Hutchinson, Governor




Mark Martin, Secretary Of State