

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: It is evident that domestic animals in this country have been increasingly popular, providing love and faithfulness to their human families on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS: Studies have shown that interaction with one's pet can greatly enrich life, help lower blood pressure, increase social interaction, provide companionship, and notably make people happier; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas Week for the Animals is bringing together supporting organizations who will bring pets to hospitals and living-assisted homes during this special week, providing joy and companionship to those who need and appreciate the love and companionship of therapy animals; and

WHEREAS: Animal World USA's awareness campaign, Arkansas Week for the Animals, strives to bring together organizations and agencies including animal shelters, humane societies, libraries, wildlife centers, and sanctuaries in scheduled events to celebrate the joy, service and devotion that animals bring to our lives and that we can bring to theirs; and

WHEREAS: The spaying and neutering of pets as well as adopting pets from local animal welfare organizations and shelters are important to eliminating pet overpopulation; and

WHEREAS: Service animals assist people with disabilities everyday by performing a multitude of tasks; such as guiding their blind and visually impaired partners, alerting deaf and hearing impaired partners to sounds, picking up items, pulling wheelchairs and alerting their handicapped humans to medical emergencies; and

WHEREAS: Numerous events will be held in cities and towns across Arkansas to save the lives of as many animals as possible; and

WHEREAS: Animals bring joy to many people across Arkansas by providing therapy, service, work, protection, and inspiration;

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 November 12<sup>th</sup> through November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, as

**ARKANSAS WEEK FOR THE ANIMALS**

across the State, and I urge my fellow citizens to join me in recognizing this observance.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October, in the year of our Lord 2016.



  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest

  
Mark Martin, Secretary Of State