

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Every child deserves to grow up in a loving, stable family; yet sadly, many children have parents who are unwilling or unable to care for them; and

WHEREAS: Approximately 415,129 children in the United States are currently in foster care and 107,918 children are awaiting adoption. For children who have lost their birth families, adoption can provide the home life, parental love, nurturing environment and security they would otherwise miss; and

WHEREAS: National Adoption Day occurs on Saturday, November 19th, 2016, during National Adoption Month, and in order to help children find permanent forever homes, local courts in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will open their doors to finalize the adoptions of children and join other organizations to celebrate these adoptions; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas's future depends on today's children, and it is important to involve the media, private and public agencies, adoptive parents, advocacy groups, civic and church groups and businesses in providing publicity and information to heighten community awareness of the crucial needs of these children and the individuals who work tirelessly to place them in loving families;

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, 2016, as

NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH IN ARKANSAS

and November 19th, 2016 as,

NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY IN ARKANSAS

and I encourage my fellow citizens to recognize this opportunity to celebrate adoptive families in Arkansas and to commit ourselves to finding each of our children a loving, forever family home.

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




Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest


Mark Martin, Secretary Of State