

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: National Foreign Language Week began in 1957 when Sister Eloise-Thérèse, the president of national collegiate foreign language honor society Alpha Mu Gamma, petitioned U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower to proclaim a week for foreign languages, and he endorsed the celebration; and

WHEREAS: Succeeding U.S. Presidents and many governors have also endorsed this celebration, recognized on the first full week in March; and

WHEREAS: Alpha Mu Gamma was founded in 1931 and is one of the largest foreign language honorary societies in the nation with 357 chapters in forty-four states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS: Alpha Mu Gamma emphasizes the importance of studying world languages through their motto “Enlightenment, Friendship and Sympathetic Understanding of Other Peoples”; and

WHEREAS: Cross-cultural skills, such as speaking a foreign language, can allow ideas to be shared and international understanding to develop;

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 March 6<sup>th</sup> through March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, as

**NATIONAL FOREIGN LANGUAGE WEEK IN ARKANSAS**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 29<sup>th</sup> day of November, in the year of our Lord 2016.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor



Attest:



Mark Martin, Secretary Of State