

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: We must increase the public's awareness of scoliosis and help children, parents, adults, and health care providers understand, recognize, and treat the complexities of spinal deformities such as scoliosis; and

WHEREAS: Scoliosis, an abnormal curvature of the spine, with no known cause (idiopathic), is a condition affecting 2-3% of the population, or an estimated 7 million people in the United States. Scoliosis is a condition which strikes without regard to gender, race, age, or economic status; and

WHEREAS: An estimated one million scoliosis patients utilize health care yearly, with approximately one of every six children being diagnosed with this condition eventually being required to receive active medical treatment; and

WHEREAS: The primary age of onset for scoliosis is between ten and fifteen with females being five times more likely to progress to a curve magnitude that requires treatment; and

WHEREAS: Screening programs allow for early detection and for treatment opportunities which may alleviate the worst effects of the condition;

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 June 2017, as

**NATIONAL SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH IN ARKANSAS**

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to renew our commitment to raising awareness of and combating the spinal condition of scoliosis, and to recognize the need for increased research and funding to reduce the pain and suffering this condition causes.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May, in the year of our Lord 2017.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor



Attest:



Mark Martin, Secretary Of State