

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Assistance dogs transform the lives of their human partners with physical, mental, and/or emotional disabilities; and

WHEREAS: They serve as devoted partners, helpers, aides, best friends, and close family members; and

WHEREAS: Assistance dogs include guide dogs, hearing alert dogs, service dogs, and seizure alert/response dogs; and

WHEREAS: Guide dogs assist people with vision loss, leading these individuals around physical obstacles and to destinations such as seating, crossing streets, entering or exiting doorways, elevators, and stairways, etc.; and

WHEREAS: Hearing alert dogs alert people with a hearing loss to the presence of specific sounds such as doorbells, telephones, crying babies, sirens, another person, buzzing timers or sensors, knocks at the door, as well as smoke, fire, and clock alarms; and

WHEREAS: Service dogs assist people with disabilities with walking, balance, dressing, transferring from place to place, retrieving and carrying items, opening doors and drawers, pushing buttons, pulling wheelchairs, and aiding with household chores such as putting in and removing clothes from the washer and dryer; and

WHEREAS: Seizure alert/response dogs alert or respond to medical conditions, such as seizures, epilepsy, dizziness, balance issues, and chronic pain; and

WHEREAS: Medical alert/medical response dogs alert or respond to oncoming medical conditions, such as heart attack, stroke, diabetes, panic attack, anxiety attack, and post-traumatic stress disorder; and

WHEREAS: International Assistance Dog Week, August 6-12, 2017, provides an opportunity for us to raise awareness of the selfless way all types of assistance dogs assist individuals with mitigating their disability-related limitations;

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

**INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE DOG WEEK IN ARKANSAS**

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to celebrate and recognize assistance dogs and their partners this week and throughout the year in their community.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year of our Lord 2017.



Attest

*Mark Martin*

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State

Asa Hutchinson, Governor