

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: First created as the Badge of Military Merit by George Washington in 1782, the Purple Heart Medal is the oldest military decoration presently in use; and

WHEREAS: The Purple Heart was the first American service award of decoration made available to the common soldier, and is specifically awarded to any member of the United States Armed Services wounded or killed in combat with a declared enemy of the United States; and

WHEREAS: Many current and former citizens of Arkansas have made the ultimate sacrifice in giving their lives in the cause of freedom, and numerous combat-wounded veterans currently live and contribute to our great state in countless ways; and

WHEREAS: Chartered by an act of Congress, the mission of the Military Order of Purple Heart is to foster an environment of good will among the combat-wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most important, make sure we never forget; and

WHEREAS: We appreciate the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients have made in defending our freedoms and believe it is important that we acknowledge them for their courage and show them the support they have earned by promoting the Combat Wounded Reserved Parking Program all across the Great State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas wishes to pledge its strong support to the Military Order of the Purple Heart and for those who put their lives at risk in service of their Country and their fellow citizens;

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 12th, 2017 as

PURPLE HEART COMBAT WOUNDED VETERANS DAY

across the State, and I urge all citizens to observe with pride and all due ceremony this time to honor all Combat Veterans in the State of Arkansas, as we value and reflect on the many sacrifices both they and their families have made.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 7th day of August, in the year of our Lord 2017.



Asa Hutchinson

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

Mark Martin

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State