

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

- WHEREAS: Rice is a primary staple for more than half the world's population and has been one of the most important foods throughout history; and
- WHEREAS: Rice is one of America's oldest agribusinesses, dating back to 1685, and today, U.S.-grown rice makes an important contribution to our nation's diet and economy; and
- WHEREAS: The United States produces approximately 20 billion pounds of rice annually, and the State of Arkansas is a key supplier of U.S. grown rice, producing nearly 10 billion pounds annually; and
- WHEREAS: Rice production, processing, merchandizing and related industries are vital to economic activity in Arkansas; and
- WHEREAS: The United States is the fifth largest exporter of rice, supplying rice for world trade and feeding millions around the world; and
- WHEREAS: Rice is a food enjoyed throughout life in many forms, as the foundation of main dishes and side dishes and as cereals, flour, bran, cooking oil, rice cakes and other healthful snacks; and
- WHEREAS: Rice is an important source of nutritional value, as it provides an excellent source of complex carbohydrates and is cholesterol-free, sodium-free and trans-fat-free; and
- WHEREAS: Rice farmers of this nation represent a key element in the provision and enhancement of habitat for wetlands-dependent wildlife species, such as ducks, geese, swans, cranes and other animals; and
- WHEREAS: The harvest of rice in this nation and in the state of Arkansas is celebrated each September;

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 September 2017, as

ARKANSAS RICE MONTH

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 14th day of August, in the year of our Lord 2017.


Asa Hutchinson, Governor




Mark Martin, Secretary Of State