

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Epilepsy is a common neurological disorder, characterized by seizures that are unpredictable in frequency, affecting people of all ages, with onset most often occurring in childhood and older adulthood; and

WHEREAS: Nearly 3.5 million people in the United States live with epilepsy, and about 30,000 of those cases are in Arkansas. It is the fourth most common neurological disorder in the United States after migraine, stroke, and Alzheimer's disease, and it results in an estimated annual cost of 15.5 billion dollars in medical expenses; and

WHEREAS: According to the report, *Epilepsy Across the Spectrum*, issued by the Institute of Medicine, one in every 26 Americans will develop epilepsy during their lifetime; and

WHEREAS: A lack of awareness and understanding about epilepsy has led to negative misconceptions and social stigma and has hindered access to effective treatment; and

WHEREAS: While medications and other treatments benefit many people of all ages who live with epilepsy, more than a million of those affected continue to have seizures that can severely limit their quality of life;

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 November 2017 as

NATIONAL EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I encourage the public to learn more about epilepsy through local affiliates and educational activities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 25th day of October, in the year of our Lord 2017.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Asa Hutchinson", written over a horizontal line.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mark Martin", written over a horizontal line.

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State