

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Over 189,000 people in Arkansas have a cognitive disability, and it is estimated that 15% of children aged 3-17 years in the United States have one or more developmental disability; and

WHEREAS: Throughout our state's history, Arkansans with disabilities have demonstrated remarkable qualities of spirit, courage, independence, and strength; and

WHEREAS: Arkansans with and without disabilities work together, play together, worship together, learn together, and grow together; and

WHEREAS: Every person, regardless of ability, has valuable strengths, infinite capacity to learn, and the potential to make important contributions to their local communities; and

WHEREAS: People with developmental disabilities in Arkansas share with all of the state's residents the desire to achieve personal success through education, meaningful work, and family and community ties; and

WHEREAS: Families of people with developmental disabilities deserve our admiration and recognition for their caring commitment and ongoing support that are both essential to an independent and productive life; and

WHEREAS: Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month has been established to promote awareness and understanding of the opportunities, challenges, and needs of persons with developmental disabilities;

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 March 2018, as

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

across the State, and I invite all citizens to observe this month and celebrate the contributions of people with developmental disabilities who have enriched our communities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 10th day of February, in the year of our Lord 2018.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State