STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Reading is the catalyst for our students' future academic success, their preparation for Americas' jobs of the future, and their ability to compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS: The journey to literacy begins early and continues throughout childhood. Parents and caregivers can play an essential role in developing fundamental skills by reading aloud regularly, helping children explore new words and concepts, and instilling enthusiasm for language and storytelling; and

WHEREAS: As children begin school, teachers, librarians, and families use books to reinforce reading proficiency and build critical thinking skills that provide the foundation for education. By working together to give our sons and daughters the tools for achievement, we lay the groundwork for growth and prosperity that will stand the test of time; and

WHEREAS: On Read Across America Day, we celebrate the birthday of Dr. Theodor Seuss Geisel - an author whose fantastic wordplay and whimsical tales continue to delight young readers around the world. Dr. Seuss's stories evoke the unlimited potential for imagination and inspiration on the printed page, and they remind us of the countless ways reading enhances our lives;

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 2nd, 2018, as

READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I urge all citizens to encourage and participate in reading activities in their homes and communities as we work together to instill a love of reading and learning in the next generation of Arkansans.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 23rd day of February, in the year of our Lord 2018.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State