

STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Fabry disease is a progressive, destructive, inherited disorder that causes children and adults to suffer many symptoms that diminish their quality of life and may lead to premature death in adults due to strokes, kidney failure, and heart failure; and

WHEREAS: Fabry disease is caused by deficient activity of the lysosomal enzyme alpha-galactosidase A that results in buildup of lipids in the body causing cell and organ damage; and

WHEREAS: There is an approved treatment available, but because the disease is severely underdiagnosed, many people suffer without an accurate diagnosis and opportunity for treatment until after irreversible organ damage occurs; and

WHEREAS: Fabry disease is inherited in an X-linked manner, historically estimated to occur in about 1 in 40,000 to 60,000 males. As many as twice this number of females may be affected but with more varied symptoms than males with classic disease; and

WHEREAS: Newborn screening programs reveal many more babies are born with Fabry disease than the historical estimate indicates; and

WHEREAS: Health care providers and families should be aware of the many Fabry disease symptoms and if warranted, obtain a GLA gene test that can definitively assess the presence of this treatable disorder;

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 April 2018, as

FABRY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

across the State, and I urge all citizens to learn about Fabry disease and assess their family risk.

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 February, in the year of our Lord 2018.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State