STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Each year, the nation's underground utility infrastructure is jeopardized through unintentional damage by those who fail to call 811 and have underground lines located prior to digging; and

WHEREAS: The potential consequences of failing to call 811 include possible service interruption, damage to the environment, personal injury, and even death; and

WHEREAS: The Arkansas Public Service Commission's Pipeline Safety Office, Arkansas 811, the Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission, and the Common Ground Alliance promote the national Call-Before-You-Dig number, 811, in an effort to reduce any damages; and

WHEREAS: Designated by the Federal Communications Commission in 2005, 811 provides potential excavators and homeowners with a simple number to reach the Arkansas One Call Center to request utility line locations at the intended dig site; and

WHEREAS: Through education of safe digging practices, excavators and homeowners can save time and money by making a simple call to 811 in advance of any digging project, thereby keeping our nation safe and connected by waiting the required amount of time, respecting marked lines, maintaining visual definition throughout the course of excavation, and finally, digging with care around the marks; and

WHEREAS: Safe digging is a shared responsibility, and Arkansas 811 is the statewide call-before-you-dig center, allowing excavators of all types to notify multiple utilities of their intent to excavate with a single submission of a locate request;

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 the month of April 2018, as

NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I encourage excavators and homeowners throughout Arkansas to always call 811 before digging to know what's below. Safe digging is no accident.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 7th day of March, in the year of our Lord 2018.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

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Mark Martin, Secretary Of State