

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Since 1900, there are 65 United States manned submarines representing more than 4,000 lives which never returned to duty and remain On Eternal Patrol; and

WHEREAS: In the 1960s, the U.S. Submariners Veterans, Inc. (USSVI) formally asked Arkansas to commemorate and honor one of these boats, the USS Snook (SS-279), which was lost on April 8, 1945, with all hands, 84 officers and crew; and

WHEREAS: The Snook will be included in the first ever undersea memorial, the On Eternal Patrol Memorial Reef, to honor all 65 lost submarines in the environment in which they served; and

WHEREAS: The On Eternal Patrol Memorial Reef will be comprised of 65 individual reef balls, each one a significant contribution to the marine environment, standing 3 feet tall and weighing about 1,300 pounds; and

WHEREAS: The On Eternal Patrol Memorial Reef, including the Snook, will be dedicated in Sarasota, Florida, this Memorial Day weekend, May 27, 2018; and

WHEREAS: This Memorial Day weekend is nearly 50 years to the day after the U.S. nuclear submarine USS Scorpion (SSN-589) was lost with all 99 officers and crew on May 22, 1968; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas and its citizens, as well as the entire United States, are greatly indebted to the sacrifice of these brave submarine veterans;

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 May 27th, 2018, as

DEDICATION OF THE ON ETERNAL PATROL MEMORIAL REEF DAY

in honor of the USS Snook and the 64 other submarines and crews remaining forever on Eternal Patrol.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 11th day of May, in the year of our Lord 2018.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State