

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Alzheimer's disease, a progressive neurodegenerative brain disorder, tragically robs individuals of their memories and leads to progressive mental and physical impairments; and

WHEREAS: At this time, there is no treatment to cure, delay, or stop the progression of Alzheimer's disease. FDA-approved drugs temporarily slow worsening of symptoms for about 6 to 12 months, on average, for about half of the individuals who take them; and

WHEREAS: An estimated 5.7 million people aged 65 and over have Alzheimer's disease, and another 200,000 people under age 65 have younger-onset Alzheimer's disease; and

WHEREAS: Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and the fifth leading cause among the elderly; and

WHEREAS: According to the Alzheimer's Association's Facts and Figures report, the direct costs of caring for those with Alzheimer's to American society is valued at \$277 billion, and more than 16 million caregivers provided over 18 billion hours of unpaid care for those with Alzheimer's and other dementias in 2018; and

WHEREAS: In Arkansas, nearly 177,0000 family members and friends cared for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias, providing 201 million hours of unpaid care, with the annual value of this caregiving totaling \$2.5 billion; and

WHEREAS: The summer solstice, June 21, 2018, has been declared The Longest Day, and this day symbolizes the struggle, endurance, and strength of people facing Alzheimer's disease; and

WHEREAS: In recognition of the individuals, families, friends, and caregivers dealing with Alzheimer's disease, as well as the researchers who are seeking a cause and/or a cure, the State of Arkansas recognizes June 2018 as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month;

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 June 2018, as

ALZHEIMER'S AND BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH

and June 21st, 2018, as

THE LONGEST DAY IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I urge all residents to show their support on this day by wearing purple in honor of citizens dealing with Alzheimer's disease.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 1st day of June, in the year of our Lord 2018.



test:

Mark Martin
Mark Martin, Secretary Of State

Asa Hutchinson
Asa Hutchinson, Governor