

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: It is estimated that 6.7 million people currently live with chronic wounds, and that number is expected to grow at more than two percent annually for the next decade. The rising incidence is fueled by an aging population and increasing rates of diseases and conditions such as diabetes, obesity, and the late effects of radiation therapy; and

WHEREAS: Untreated chronic wounds can lead to diminished quality of life and possibly amputation of the affected limb. The chronic wound epidemic represents a cost of more than \$50 billion to the healthcare system; and

WHEREAS: More than 30.3 million people (9.4% of the population) have diabetes in the United States, and almost two million of those people will develop a diabetic foot ulcer or other non-healing wound. Advanced wound care aims to prevent amputations and heal patients in a faster and more cost-effective way; and

WHEREAS: Advanced wound care physicians and health care providers take great pride in caring for their patients and seeing their patients succeed; and

WHEREAS: Awareness and education about chronic wounds will benefit current and future chronic wound patients. The goal of Wound Care Awareness Week is to inform patients, their families, community physicians, and the general public about the importance of advanced wound care and its ability to save lives and limbs;

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 4<sup>th</sup> through June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018, as

**WOUND CARE AWARENESS WEEK**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord 2018.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Asa Hutchinson".

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Martin".

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State