STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The Bald Eagle was designated as the United States of America's National Emblem on June 20th, 1782, by our country's Founding Fathers at the Second Continental Congress; and

WHEREAS: The Bald Eagle is unique to North America and represents American values and attributes such as freedom, courage, strength, spirit, justice, quality, and excellence; and

WHEREAS: The Bald Eagle is the central image used in the Great Seal of the United States and in the logos of many branches of the U.S. government, including the Presidency, Congress, Defense Department, Treasury Department, Justice Department, State Department, Department of Commerce, and U.S. Postal Service; and

WHEREAS: The Bald Eagle's image, meaning, and symbolism have played a significant role in the beliefs, traditions, religions, lifestyles, and heritage of Americans from all walks of life, including U.S. military service men/women, American Indians, Christians, and members of various civic, fraternal, patriotic, veterans, youth, conservation, educational, outdoors, nature, sportsman, wildlife, political, and sports organizations; and

WHEREAS: The Bald Eagle's image, meaning, and symbolism have played a significant role in American art, music, literature, architecture, commerce, education, culture; and on United States stamps, currency, and coinage; and

WHEREAS: The Bald Eagle was once endangered with possible extinction and is making a gradual and encouraging comeback to America's skies; and

WHEREAS: The Bald Eagle was federally classified as an "endangered species" in the lower 48 states under the Endangered Species Act in 1973 and was upgraded to a less imperiled "threatened" status under that Act in 1995; and

WHEREAS: The Department of Interior and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service delisted the Bald Eagle from Endangered Species Act protection in 2007, but it will continue to be protected under the Bald & Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act; and

WHEREAS: The recovery of the United States' Bald Eagle population was largely accomplished due to the vigilant efforts of numerous caring agencies, corporations, organizations, and citizens;

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 20th, 2018, as

AMERICAN EAGLE DAY

across the State, and I encourage all citizens to support the majestic Bald Eagle's continuing recovery and the protections of its precious natural habitat and to commemorate the living and symbolic presence of our National Bird through the annual observance of American Eagle Day.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 19th day of March, in the year of our Lord 2018.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State