STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Backpacking and hiking, both for daytrips and overnight excursions, is a favorite activity for many people around the world and is a popular pastime in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Backpacking and hiking draw visitors from all across the country to our state, further promoting the natural beauty, the striking scenery, and the generous hospitality found in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Backpacking and hiking are enjoyable, unique ways to explore nature, stay active, and create strong bonds of comradery between friends and family; and

WHEREAS: The Great State of Arkansas, also known as the Natural State, is home to many beautiful trails, wilderness areas, lakes, and rivers; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas invites and encourages all citizens and visitors of our state to experience the wonderful trail systems and state parks throughout Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Exercise is a vital part of a healthy lifestyle, and outdoor activities such as backpacking and hiking promote mental, emotional, and physical health; and

WHEREAS: *Backpacking and Hiking Day in Arkansas* is dedicated to the many backpackers and hikers across our state and to outdoor enthusiasts around the country who come to enjoy the beauty of the Natural State;

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 July 17th, 2018, as

BACKPACKING AND HIKING DAY IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I urge all citizens to celebrate the beauty of our state while promoting the benefits of a healthy lifestyle by taking a hike or backpacking trip in the Natural State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 2nd day of July, in the year of our Lord 2018.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State