

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

- WHEREAS: Childhood cancer is a leading cause of death in children; and
- WHEREAS: 1 in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed by their 20th birthday; and
- WHEREAS: 43 children per day or 15,780 children are diagnosed with cancer annually in the U.S.; and
- WHEREAS: There are approximately 40,000 children on active treatment at any given time; and
- WHEREAS: The average age of diagnosis is 6 years old, compared to 66 years for adults' cancer diagnosis; and
- WHEREAS: On average, there's been a 0.6 percent increase in incidence per year since the mid-1970s, resulting in an overall incidence increase of 24 percent over the last 40 years; and
- WHEREAS: Two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will have chronic health conditions as a result of their treatment toxicity, with one-quarter being classified as severe to life-threatening; and
- WHEREAS: Approximately one half of childhood cancer families rate the associated financial toxicity due to out-of-pocket expenses as considerable to severe; and
- WHEREAS: In the last 20 years, only four new drugs have been approved by the FDA to specifically treat childhood cancer; and
- WHEREAS: The National Cancer Institute recognized the unique research needs of childhood cancer and the associated need for increased funding to carry this out; and
- WHEREAS: Hundreds of non-profit organizations at the local and national level are helping children with cancer and their families cope through educational, emotional, and financial support; and
- WHEREAS: Researchers and healthcare professionals work diligently, dedicating their expertise to treat and cure children with cancer; and
- WHEREAS: Too many children are affected by this deadly disease, and the State of Arkansas seeks to raise awareness in hopes to find a cure;

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 September 2018, as

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 29th day of June, in the year of our Lord 2018.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State