

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Diaper need, the condition of not having a sufficient supply of diapers to ensure that infants and toddlers are clean, healthy, and dry, can adversely affect the health and welfare of infants, toddlers, and their families; and

WHEREAS: National surveys report that one-in-three mothers experiencing diaper need at some time while their children are less than three years of age, and forty-eight percent of families delay changing a diaper to extend their supply; and

WHEREAS: The average infant or toddler requires an average of at least 50 diaper changes per week over three years; and

WHEREAS: There are no government assistance programs for the purchase or provision of diapers, and a monthly supply of diapers can cost as much as six percent of a full-time minimum wage worker's salary; therefore, obtaining a sufficient supply of diapers can cause economic hardship to families; and

WHEREAS: A supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for infant and toddlers to participate in childcare programs and quality early education programs; and

WHEREAS: The people of Arkansas recognize that addressing diaper need can lead to economic opportunity for the state's low-income families and can lead to improved health for families and their communities;

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 24th through September 30th, 2018, as

DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I encourage the citizens of Arkansas to donate generously to diaper banks, diaper drives, and those organizations that distribute diapers to families in need to help alleviate diaper need in the state.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 12th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2018.



Asa Hutchinson

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

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Mark Martin

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State