# STATE OF ARKANSAS

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

# PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Domestic violence, in one way or another, affects every family in every town and city across our State and Nation. Too many of our homes have become places where women, men, children, and seniors suffer physical abuse and emotional trauma; and

WHEREAS: Raising public awareness of domestic violence, the needs of its victims and survivors, and the inter-generational cycle of violence is crucial to the safety and well-being of our citizens, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS: Domestic violence is a particularly devastating form of abuse because it wears a familiar face: the face of a spouse, parent, or partner. Societal indifference regarding family violence contributes to the endangerment of Arkansas families; and

WHEREAS: The crime of domestic violence damages an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity; and

WHEREAS: The dedicated professionals who work within victim-advocacy organizations, medical- and mental-health communities, and the criminal-justice system have earned recognition for their exceptional efforts to reduce domestic violence; and

WHEREAS: Community shelters throughout the State are places of refuge and safety for persons who are victimized and can be instruments of healing for families injured by violence; and

WHEREAS: No child should have to live in an abusive home, and no person should have to live in fear in their home, on the streets, or in their workplace;

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 October 2018, as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I urge my fellow citizens to honor and commend the efforts of the victims and members of victim-advocacy organizations who are committed to ending the cycle of family violence by raising awareness in Arkansas.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 30th day of August, in the year of our Lord 2018.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State