

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Diabetes affects 30.3 million people – 9.4% of the population in the United States, and is a serious disease for which there is no known cure. It is the seventh leading cause of death by disease in the United States; and

WHEREAS: Approximately one quarter of the Americans who have diabetes, 7.2 million (23.8%) of people, do not know they have the disease and may experience damage to the heart, eyes, kidneys, and limbs without producing any symptoms; and

WHEREAS: Another 84.1 million, or 1 in 3 American adults, has pre-diabetes, a condition which puts them at greater risk for developing Type 2 diabetes (T2D), and if current trends continue, 1 in 3 American adults will have diabetes by 2050; and

WHEREAS: Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is an autoimmune disease in which a person's pancreas stops producing insulin, a hormone that enables people to get energy from food. It occurs when the body's immune system attacks and destroys the insulin-producing cells in the pancreas, called beta cells. While its causes are not yet entirely understood, scientists believe that both genetic factors and environmental triggers are involved. Its onset has nothing to do with diet or lifestyle. There is no prevention for T1D and at present no cure; and

WHEREAS: T1D strikes both children and adults at any age. It comes on suddenly, causes dependence on injected or pumped insulin for life, and carries the constant threat of devastating complications; and

WHEREAS: 1.25 million Americans are living with T1D including about 200,000 youth (less than 20 years old) and over a million adults (20 years old and older); 40,000 people are annually diagnosed each year in the U.S. with this condition. Five million people in the U.S. are expected to have T1D by 2050, including nearly 600,000 youth. Between 2001 and 2009, there was a 21% increase in the prevalence of T1D in people under the age of 20. \$14 billion T1D-associated annual healthcare costs in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS: Diabetes affects everyone, young and old alike - Caucasians, African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders – with minority populations in the United States having an increased risk for developing the disease; and

WHEREAS: An increase in community awareness of risk factors and symptoms related to diabetes can help to prevent the onset of diabetes and improve the likelihood that people with diabetes will get the attention they need before suffering the devastating complications of the disease;

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 November 2018, as

DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH

across the State, and I encourage all citizens to help fight this disease and its deadly complications, including heart and kidney disease, stroke, blindness, and amputation, by increasing awareness of the risk factors for diabetes and by providing support to those suffering from diabetes.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 16th day of October, in the year of our Lord 2018.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor



Attest:



Mark Martin, Secretary Of State