

# STATE OF ARKANSAS

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

### PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Smoking remains the single most preventable cause of premature death in our society; and

WHEREAS: Increasing numbers of children are experimenting with a product that can produce lifetime addiction with the increased risk of cancer, and

WHEREAS: More Americans die every year from tobacco-related diseases than from AIDS, alcohol, car accidents, fires, illegal drugs, murder, and suicides combined; and

WHEREAS: Tobacco use in Arkansas results in the loss of 2.9 billion dollars in medical and economic productivity costs annually; and

WHEREAS: For years, millions of smokers have participated in the Great American Smokeout, a day on which they give up cigarettes for 24 hours; and

WHEREAS: Some of those who give up cigarettes for the day may go on to give up the habit entirely; and

WHEREAS: Quitting smoking is proven to improve health, reduce disease burden, and increase longevity; and

WHEREAS: By virtue of the above, the Great American Smokeout has potential for improving health;

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 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018, as

#### GREAT AMERICAN SMOKEOUT IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I encourage all tobacco users to demonstrate they can quit for the day and perhaps longer.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, in the year of our Lord 2018.



Attest

*Mark Martin*  
Mark Martin, Secretary Of State

*Asa Hutchinson*  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor