STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Throughout history, many people from Ireland have traveled to America and Arkansas in search of freedom, justice, and opportunity and have long enjoyed a rich and proud legacy; and

WHEREAS: Fleeing religious, social, and political discrimination in their beloved native land, as well as starvation and disease, the Irish immigrants turned hopeful eyes toward the promising shores of America; and

WHEREAS: The Irish depended on the strong spirit and character of their heritage to succeed in this new land; and

WHEREAS: The Irish, with all the strength, resilience, humor, and hospitality of their noble past, have made an indelible impression upon every human endeavor art, music, literature, film, dance, theatre, sports, education, law, finance, and politics; and

WHEREAS: It is most fitting to set aside the month of March, with its Saint Patrick's Day celebrations, to highlight and honor the history and heritage of the Irish people and to remember and pay tribute to the men and women who have descended from the beautiful Emerald Isle;

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 March 2019, as

IRISH HERITAGE MONTH

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to join in activities designed to facilitate recognition, understanding, and appreciation of the significant contributions to our Nation made by the Irish.

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 February, in the year of our Lord 2019.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

John Thurston, Secretary Of State