

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Fabry disease is a progressive, destructive, inherited disorder that causes children and adults to suffer many symptoms that diminish their quality of life and may lead to premature death in adults due to strokes, kidney failure, and heart failure; and

WHEREAS: Fabry disease is caused by deficient activity of the lysosomal enzyme alpha-galactosidase A that results in buildup of lipids in the body causing cell and organ damage; and

WHEREAS: There are two approved treatments available, but because the disease is severely underdiagnosed, many people live without an accurate diagnosis and opportunity for treatment until after irreversible organ damage occurs; and

WHEREAS: Newborn screening has now been performed in several countries, yielding a prevalence ranging from 1:1,368 to 1:8,882. This is in contrast to earlier presumed prevalence of 1:40,000-1:117,000; and

WHEREAS: Health care providers and families should be aware of the many Fabry disease symptoms and if warranted, obtain a GLA gene test that can definitively assess the presence of this treatable disorder;

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 April 2019, as

**FABRY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH**

across the State, and I urge all citizens to learn about Fabry disease and assess their family risk.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord 2019.



*Asa Hutchinson*  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

*John Thurston*  
John Thurston, Secretary Of State