STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Sarcoidosis is a potentially debilitating and deadly multi-organ, inflammatory disease with no known cause, cure, or reliable treatments to slow or halt the progression of chronic cases; and

WHEREAS: The signs and symptoms of sarcoidosis vary widely depending on the person and organs affected, and can include debilitating fatigue; shortness of breath; difficulties with balance and coordination; irregular heartbeat; visual problems, including blindness; pain affecting joints and muscles; weakness or numbness of limbs; skin rash and discoloration; mood disorders such as depression and anxiety; organ failure; and sleep difficulties; and

WHEREAS: Sarcoidosis can affect people of any age, race, or gender; and

WHEREAS: Sarcoidosis is a diagnosis of exclusion as there is no objective test or biomarker. Numerous diagnostic tests and ongoing clinical observations and/or management lends to high economic burden of this disease, including great costs to patients and family members; and

WHEREAS: Volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life and prognosis of people living with sarcoidosis and their families, and more research is needed to find effective treatments and improve care for those living with the disease today;

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

SARCOIDOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 11th day of March, in the year of our Lord 2019.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

John Thurston, Secretary Of State