STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: May 17, 2019, is observed as World Neurofibromatosis (NF) Awareness Day to educate the public about this rare genetic disorder; and

WHEREAS: Although over 100,000 people in the United States are living with NF and one in every 3,000 births is diagnosed with NF, it is still is relatively unknown to the public; and

WHEREAS: NF affects all populations equally, regardless of race, ethnicity, or gender; and

WHEREAS: NF causes tumors to grow on nerves throughout the body and also can affect development of the brain, cardiovascular system, bones, and skin; and

WHEREAS: The disorder can lead to blindness, deafness, bone abnormalities, disfigurement, learning disabilities, disabling pain, and cancer; and

WHEREAS: Organizations promote and financially sponsor world-class medical research aimed at finding effective treatments and, ultimately, a cure for NF; and

WHEREAS: Collaborative partnerships in both science and industry are being fostered to speed the drug research and development process through a number of consortia; and

WHEREAS: Patient and family support is provided through information resources, youth programs, and local activities; and

WHEREAS: Arkansans are working to build a network of support locally, host annual events to support critical NF research, and provide scholarships for Arkansas teens to attend NF Camp; and

WHEREAS: Much remains to be done in raising public awareness of NF to help promote early diagnosis, proper management and treatment, prevention of complications, and support for research;

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 May 2019, as

NEUROFIBROMATOSIS (NF) AWARENESS MONTH IN ARKANSAS

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