

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately one in 31 hospitalized patients get healthcare-associated infections each year in the United States; and

WHEREAS: Not only does this cost the healthcare system billions in excess costs, but it also results in the deaths of 72,000 patients each year; and

WHEREAS: Infection Preventionists (IP) provide multi-disciplinary education and collaborate with the entire healthcare team to develop care plans that protect our patients, residents, and/or clients from healthcare-associated infections and other infectious illnesses. In addition, IPs work with other organizations to deliver the message that infection prevention and control (IPAC) can be easily adapted and implemented into care plans. This message is most effective when everyone works towards the same common goal: preventing the spread of infection to clients/patients/residents, healthcare providers, healthcare workers, and visitors; and

WHEREAS: IP involvement in many preventative strategies has elevated IPAC program awareness within acute, long-term, and community care settings. IPs have been involved in a number of successful IPAC initiatives that address hand hygiene, antimicrobial stewardship, surveillance of infectious illness, reprocessing of medical equipment and devices, and maintaining safe patient environments during construction and renovation. The goals of these IP-supported IPAC initiatives are to reduce transmission of infectious illness, improve the quality of care and decrease costs within all health care settings; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas recognizes the importance of raising awareness of the role infection prevention plays to improve patient safety. To highlight the importance of infection prevention and raise awareness of everyone's role in protecting the public, the State of Arkansas supports International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW);

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 October 17th, 2019, as

INTERNATIONAL INFECTION PREVENTION WEEK 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 16th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2019.




Asa Hutchinson, Governor


John Thurston, Secretary Of State