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 of their beloved native land, as well as starvation and disease, these Irish immigrants turned hopeful eyes toward the promising shores of America and depended on the strong spirit and character of their heritage to succeed in this new land; and

WHEREAS: The Irish have made an indelible impression upon every human endeavor in art, music, literature, film, dance, theater, sports, education, law, finance, and politics reflecting the noble past of this mighty race, with all the strength, resilience, humor and hospitality of the Irish character; it is most fitting to set aside the month of March to highlight and honor the history and heritage of the Irish people and to remember and pay tribute to 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 2020, as

IRISH HERITAGE MONTH

I encourage all citizens to celebrate the richness of the Irish culture and recognize its prominence in our American identity.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 29th day of January, in the year of our Lord 2020.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston, Secretary Of State