

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: There are approximately 2.1 million Americans living with limb loss/difference; and

WHEREAS: Approximately 1,500 children are born each year in the United States with congenital upper limb difference and 750 children are born with lower limb difference; and

WHEREAS: More than 600 children lose a limb to injuries from heavy machinery, small tractors, and lawn mowers each year; and

WHEREAS: Diabetes, peripheral vascular disease, and trauma are cited as the leading causes of amputation with approximately 99% of cases being attributed to them; and

WHEREAS: Studies have shown that behaviors such as diabetes management, properly treating wounds, and observing safety practices can be effective in preventing amputations; and

WHEREAS: The number of Americans living with limb loss/difference will rise to over 3.6 million by 2050 unless a major public awareness campaign is launched and key prevention initiatives put in place; and

WHEREAS: Access to appropriate prosthetic care for people living with limb loss is vital to enable individuals to reach their full potential, live independently, and live well; and

WHEREAS: The Amputee Coalition provides education, support and advocacy through the National Limb Loss Resource Center for the benefit of persons with limb loss/difference, their families, and health care providers throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS: April is an appropriate month to designate as Limb Loss Awareness Month as spring is a time of renewal and inspiration;

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 2020, as

NATIONAL LIMB LOSS AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Arkansas and encourage all of its citizens to join in recognizing the importance of this month by celebrating people living with limb loss and limb difference, learning about issues affecting people with limb loss, express gratitude to family and caregivers who are a source of support and motivation, and salute our veterans who have lost their limbs in service to this country or in retirement.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 10th day of February, in the year of our Lord 2020.



Asa Hutchinson
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston
John Thurston, Secretary Of State