TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Arkansas’s birds make up an integral part of Arkansas’s beauty, environment, and wildlife;

WHEREAS: From the mountains in the Ozarks to the Mississippi River Valley and the western deciduous forests of the Ouachita National Forest to the rolling hills of Crowley’s Ridge and everywhere in between, Arkansas’s rich natural resources provide habitat for forty-two Watch Listed bird species and forty-six species of Conservation Interest; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas is home to eight Important Bird Areas, including the Cache River and the Lower White River watershed, which are recognized as globally significant; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas hosts an average of 306,000 birds and thousands of other waterfowl along both the White River and the Cache River; and

WHEREAS: Farmland in Eastern Arkansas are home to large flocks of different species of wintering geese, such as white-fronted, snow, Canada and where Arkansas Pine forest is the nesting habitat for the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker; and

WHEREAS: There are over 350 different species of birds that call the Natural State home and 145 birds that come to Arkansas to nest in the state year-round; and

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 26th, 2020, as

ARKANSAS BIRD DAY

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 23rd day of April, in the year of our Lord 2020.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor