

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Each year, approximately 7.6 million animals enter animal shelters nationwide. Most animal shelters are non-profit organizations with limited funding that struggle to accommodate animals in need. Due to overpopulation, many of these animals remain or become homeless; and

WHEREAS: Spaying and neutering pets, as well as adopting pets from local animal welfare organizations and shelters, are important factors in eliminating pet overpopulation; and

WHEREAS: There are many medical benefits to spaying and neutering domestic animals. Spaying female pets helps prevent uterine infections and breast tumors, which are malignant or cancerous in about 50 percent of dogs and 90 percent of cats. Neutering male pets prevents some prostate problems; and

WHEREAS: Pets that have been spayed or neutered may demonstrate improved behavior and will be less likely to roam away from home; and

WHEREAS: The cost of a pet's spay or neuter surgery is far less than the cost of having and caring for a litter of pets. Many shelters and animal welfare organizations partner with low-cost spay and neuter providers to ensure a greater amount of pet owners have access to this service;

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 June 8<sup>th</sup> through June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020, as

**PET SPAY AND NEUTER AWARENESS WEEK**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 30<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year of our Lord 2020.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Asa Hutchinson', written over a horizontal line.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'John Thurston', written over a horizontal line.

John Thurston, Secretary Of State