

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: There are 1 in 2229 individuals born with gastroschisis in the United States, and 1 in 1,333 individuals born in Arkansas with gastroschisis, which is nearly double the national rate; and

WHEREAS: This disease may affect small numbers of people, gastroschisis affects many Americans; and

WHEREAS: Many Americans living with gastroschisis have serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected including but not limited to failure to thrive/slow growth, short bowel syndrome, multiple organ transplants, and long term feeding issues; and

WHEREAS: Individuals and families affected by gastroschisis often experience problems such as a sense of isolation, difficulty in obtaining an accurate and timely diagnosis, few treatment options, and problems related to accessing or being reimbursed for treatment; and

WHEREAS: The cause of gastroschisis is relatively unknown, patients and their families must bear a large share of the burden for things such as raising funds for research; and

WHEREAS: Hundreds of residents of Arkansas are among those affected by gastroschisis;

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 July 30, 2020, as

**GASTROSCHISIS AWARENESS DAY**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of July, in the year of our Lord 2020.



*Asa Hutchinson*

Asa Hutchinson, Governor