TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Pharmacists have a long history of being an integral component of every community; and

WHEREAS: Pharmacists are playing a greater role in healthcare than ever before. Pharmacies — often the first stop and last mile in healthcare delivery — are instrumental in helping to solve many of the challenges facing our healthcare systems, partners, customers, and patients today; and

WHEREAS: Our communities rely on our pharmacists for information, support, and guidance more than ever before. Pharmacists continue to serve as pillars of support, information, and expertise in their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

WHEREAS: Pharmacists are filling critical gaps in the healthcare system and provide community care that is patient-focused; and

WHEREAS: Pharmacists work closely with payors, providers, and other partners to improve patient care and access while also lowering overall costs; and

WHEREAS: Pharmacists are a critical part of patients’ care teams and are the most accessible providers in healthcare today because of their unique position in the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS: Pharmacists have played a critical role in providing access to vaccinations in underserved areas, given the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 and other diseases on these communities. Pharmacy teams have provided different models of care to vaccinate communities, such as mobile and off-site clinics in community centers or churches to ensure delivery of vaccines, along with a traveling mobile clinic to reach people in rural and underserved areas.

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 October 2021, as

PHARMACIST MONTH IN ARKANSAS

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 9th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2021.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston, Secretary Of State