TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

A PROCLAMATION CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF STATE SENATOR FOR DISTRICT 7 AND SETTING ELECTION-RELATED DEADLINES

WHEREAS: Senator Lance Eads, Arkansas State Senator for District 7, resigned from his post effective Thursday, October 28, 2021; and

WHEREAS: The resignation of Senator Eads has created a vacancy in the office of State Senator for District 7 of the Arkansas Senate; and

WHEREAS: In such circumstance, Arkansas law requires that I set the date for a special election to fill the vacancy, as well as other election-related deadlines and requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim as follows:

1. A special election shall be held on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, for the purpose of filling the vacancy in the office of State Senator for District 7.

2. A special primary election for all eligible political parties shall be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021.

3. If required, a special primary runoff election shall be held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022.

4. The period for filing for candidacy as a party candidate with the Secretary of State's Office shall commence at 12:00 noon on Monday, November 15, 2021, and end at 12:00 noon on Monday, November 22, 2021.

5. Certificates of nomination shall be issued by parties no later than 5:00 pm on Friday, January 21, 2022. and candidates shall file the certificates of designation by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 24, 2022.

6. Independent candidates for the special election, if any, must submit their notices of candidacy, political practices pledges, affidavits of eligibility and petitions to the Office of the Secretary of State, in Little Rock, no later than 12:00 noon on Monday, November 22, 2021. Petitions in support of independent candidates may be circulated from Sunday, November 7, 2021 through 12:00 noon on Monday, November 22, 2021. The number of signatures required on the petition shall be reduced proportionately pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 7-7-103(b)(5).

7. Write-in candidates for the special election must file notices of candidacy, political practices pledges, and affidavits of eligibility for office, no later than 12:00 noon on Monday, November 22, 2021. Write-in candidates must also notify the county boards of election commissioners of their intent to run in the special election, in writing, by 12:00 noon Monday, January 24, 2022.

8. Drawing for ballot position for the special primary election shall occur on or before Monday, November 22, 2021.
9. Drawing for ballot position for the special election shall occur on or before Monday, January 24, 2022.

10. The results of the special primary election shall be certified by the county boards of election commissioners on or before Friday, December 24, 2021.

11. The results of the special election shall be certified by the county boards of election commissioners on or before Friday, February 18, 2022.

12. All other deadlines and requirements not provided for in this proclamation shall be as provided for by the election laws of this State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 29th day of October, in the year of our Lord 2021.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

John Thurston, Secretary of State