TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME -- GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The term Gold Star began during World War I when American families displayed flags in homes, businesses, schools, and churches with a gold star for each loved one lost in military service; and

WHEREAS: Today, the nation recognizes the sacrifice that all Gold Star Family members make when a father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, or other loved one dies in active service to the nation; and

WHEREAS: Less than one percent of our nation serves in our military, and we have an obligation to acknowledge the losses of our service men and women and to ensure their families are not forgotten; and

WHEREAS: During the month of May, we honor individuals with a family member in the United States Armed Forces who died in active service in an area of conflict; and

WHEREAS: We remember our commitment to Gold Star Families, who carry on with pride and courage despite their tragic loss;

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 May 2022, as

GOLD STAR AWARENESS MONTH

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 May, in the year of our Lord 2022.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

John Thurston, Secretary of State