

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) ranks vaccination among the most significant public health achievements of the 20th century, dramatically reducing the number of deaths from preventable diseases and increasing overall life expectancy; and

WHEREAS: When people are unvaccinated, outbreaks of diseases like pertussis (whooping cough) and measles can—and do—occur. This impacts health and the ability of children to attend school and adults to go to work; and

WHEREAS: Between 50,000 and 90,000 individuals in the United States die each year from vaccine-preventable diseases; and

WHEREAS: Young children and older adults are particularly vulnerable to vaccine-preventable diseases until they can be fully immunized; and

WHEREAS: The vaccination of children born in the United States between 1994 and 2018 will prevent 419 million illnesses, 936,000 deaths, and \$1.9 trillion in total societal costs; and

WHEREAS: Vaccines are demonstrated to be an exceptionally safe method to prevent disease, as they are thoroughly tested before licensing and carefully monitored to ensure safety; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas strives to protect all its residents, both young and old, from preventable diseases, and encourages all vaccines for children due or overdue be administered according to the recommended CDC immunization schedules. Arkansas will work to increase influenza and pneumonia vaccination rates to ease unnecessary burdens on healthcare systems and comorbidities during the upcoming fall and winter flu and pneumonia season, and the state continues its efforts to encourage residents to become fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus. Arkansas supports those individuals essential to the vaccination and includes pharmacists, nurses, and physicians;

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 August 2022, as

IMMUNIZATION 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 8th day of June, in the year of our Lord 2022.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Asa Hutchinson".

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Thurston".
John Thurston, Secretary of State