TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Highway-grade crossing crashes during 2021 resulted in 44 incidents, seven fatalities, and 10 non-fatal injuries in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents on railroad property during 2021 resulted in five people killed and another five injured in the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Highway-grade crossing crashes are more severe than highway collisions and are more likely to result in death and injury; and

WHEREAS: Collisions between trains and motor vehicles or pedestrians could be prevented by increased public awareness of the dangers at crossings and around railroad property and the appropriate safety laws; and

WHEREAS: Operation Lifesaver is the foremost public information and education program dedicated to preventing highway/rail-grade crossing crashes and pedestrian/railroad trespass incidents; and

WHEREAS: On September 19th through 25th, 2022, and throughout the year, all citizens are encouraged to observe added caution as motorists or pedestrians near tracks or trains;

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 September 19th through 25th, 2022, as

RAIL SAFETY WEEK

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 2022.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

John Thurston, Secretary Of State