

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Bullying is physical, verbal, sexual, or emotional harm or intimidation intentionally directed at a person or group of people; and

WHEREAS: Bullying occurs in neighborhoods, playgrounds, schools, and online through technology; and

WHEREAS: Various researchers have concluded that bullying is the most common form of violence, affecting millions of American children and adolescents annually; and

WHEREAS: Thousands of children and adolescents are affected by bullying annually; and

WHEREAS: Targets of bullying are at increased risk for depression, anxiety, sleep difficulties, lower academic achievement, and dropping out of school, and students who are repeatedly bullied often fear activities such as riding the bus, going to school, interacting online, and attending community events; and

WHEREAS: Children who bully are at greater risk of engaging in more serious violent behaviors; and

WHEREAS: Children with disabilities are two to three times more likely to be bullied than their nondisabled peers; and

WHEREAS: Children who witness bullying often feel less safe, helpless to stop it, and intimidated;

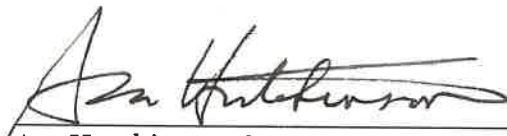
NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim October 2021, as

**NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH IN ARKANSAS**

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to be engaged in a variety of awareness and prevention activities designed to make our communities safer and kinder for all children, adolescents, and adults of all abilities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September, in the year of our Lord 2021.



  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attc

  
John Thurston, Secretary of State