PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Service to others is a hallmark of the American character, and throughout our history, citizens have stepped up to meet challenges by volunteering in their communities; and

WHEREAS: AmeriCorps provides opportunities for nearly 75,000 Americans to serve their country through an intensive commitment to service at nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups throughout the country; and

WHEREAS: AmeriCorps enriches the lives of its members, building habits that create engaged citizens who are active participants in civic matters affecting their communities long after their service terms are completed; and

WHEREAS: AmeriCorps members encourage collaboration and partnerships, leveraging millions of volunteers in service and acquiring the support of business partners to increase the effectiveness of their initiatives; and

WHEREAS: In Arkansas, more than 3,300 AmeriCorps members of various ages and backgrounds helped to meet local needs at more than 300 locations by tutoring or mentoring children and youth, increasing food security, restoring the environment, and responding to disasters; and

WHEREAS: In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps members develop valuable work skills and earn money for continuing education, and they strengthen the lives of their families, communities, and Arkansas as a whole; and

WHEREAS: Since AmeriCorps was founded in 1994, more than 10,000 residents in Arkansas served more than 17 million hours through AmeriCorps and have received higher education and loan reimbursement from the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award totaling more than $12 million; and

WHEREAS: AmeriCorps Week is an opportunity to recognize the dedication and commitment of the more than one million Americans who have chosen to serve their country through AmeriCorps and their community partners, and to encourage more Americans to follow their footsteps in service;

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 March 7th through March 13th, 2021, as

AMERICORPS WEEK IN ARKANSAS

across the state, and I urge all citizens to thank AmeriCorps members and alumni for their service and to find their own ways to give back to their communities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 1st day of March, in the year of our Lord 2021.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston, Secretary of State