TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Arkansans with and without disabilities work together, play together, worship together, learn together, and grow together; and

WHEREAS: Every person, regardless of ability, has valuable strengths, capacity to learn, and the potential to make important contributions to their local communities; and

WHEREAS: People with developmental disabilities in Arkansas share with all of the state’s residents the desire to achieve personal success through education, meaningful work, and family and community ties; and

WHEREAS: Families of people with developmental disabilities deserve our admiration and recognition for their caring commitment and ongoing support that are both essential to an independent and productive life; and

WHEREAS: Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month has been established to promote awareness and understanding of the opportunities, challenges, and needs of persons with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS: Celebrating the abilities and contributions of people with developmental disabilities can only serve to enrich our community and enhance our diversity;

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 2021, as

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

across the state, and I invite all citizens to observe this month and celebrate the contributions of individuals with developmental disabilities who have enriched our communities.

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 February, in the year of our Lord 2021.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston, Secretary of State