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 through technology; and

WHEREAS: Cyberbullying can occur through text messages, rumors sent via email or posted on social networking sites and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites or fake profiles; and

WHEREAS: Various researchers have concluded that bullying is the most common form of violence, affecting millions of American children and adolescents with or without disabilities; and

WHEREAS: Targets of bullying are more likely to acquire physical, emotional, and learning problems, and students who are repeatedly bullied often fear activities such as riding the bus, going to school, and attending community events; and

WHEREAS: Children who witness bullying often feel less secure, more fearful 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 2020, 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.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 2nd day of October, in the year of our Lord 2020.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor