

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME- GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Chiropractors are healthcare providers who focus on the whole person as part of their hands-on, nondrug approach to pain management and health promotion and who have special expertise in the prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of musculoskeletal conditions and injuries; and

WHEREAS: Chiropractors were identified in a March 2020 memo by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as part of the essential healthcare workforce and many have continued to serve their patients and communities since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS: With many Americans working from home and attending school online since the beginning of the pandemic, the incidence of musculoskeletal conditions has grown due in part to an increase in sedentary lifestyles, poor posture and stress; and

WHEREAS: Even before the pandemic, musculoskeletal conditions have been among the most commonly reported medical conditions for adults and seniors; among them, low back pain is the single leading cause of disability worldwide, preventing people from participating in daily and recreational activities; and

WHEREAS: Chiropractic care is recognized as one of the safest nondrug, noninvasive approaches available for the treatment of low back pain and other musculoskeletal complaints; and

WHEREAS: In addition to their expertise in spinal manipulation, chiropractors have broad diagnostic skills and are trained to recommend therapeutic and rehabilitative exercises, and to provide nutritional, dietary and lifestyle advice; and

WHEREAS: The American College of Physicians low back pain treatment guidelines released in 2017 promote the use of noninvasive, nondrug approaches, such as spinal manipulation, as a first line of defense against back pain, and groups such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Joint Commission have also adopted positions supporting this approach; and

WHEREAS: National Chiropractic Health Month 2020 serves as a reminder to all citizens of Arkansas that noninvasive, nondrug treatments for low back pain and other musculoskeletal conditions such as spinal manipulation and other chiropractic services, combined with an active, healthy lifestyle, may lessen or eliminate the need for riskier, potentially addictive treatments such as prescription pain medications and surgery.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by proclaiming virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the state of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim October, 2020, as

NATIONAL CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH MONTH

across the state, and I urge all citizens to seek the benefits of movement, good posture, healthy living and a nondrug approach to pain management.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 30th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2020.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor