

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Nurse practitioners (NPs) serve as trusted, frontline health care providers for patients in our state, and this year, in 2020, we celebrate the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife; and

WHEREAS: NPs are working tirelessly to diagnose and treat patients with COVID-19 and to combat community spread nationwide, while grieving NP colleagues who have lost their lives during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS: NPs work to expand access to care in underserved communities, end health disparities; and

WHEREAS: NPs provide high-quality primary, acute and specialty care services while focusing on health promotion, disease prevention, health education and counseling, guiding patients to make smarter health and lifestyle choices every day; and

WHEREAS: NPs are highly skilled practitioners with advanced education and clinical training, building upon their initial registered nurse preparation; and

WHEREAS: The confidence that patients have in NP-delivered health care is evidenced by the more than one billion visits made annually to NPs across the country; and

WHEREAS: More than five decades of research demonstrates the high quality of care provided by NPs; and

WHEREAS: There are more than 290,000 licensed NPs in the United States, and 2,288 in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Better utilization of NPs through modernized state laws and improved policies creates better health through a more accessible, efficient, cost-effective and higher quality health care system; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas is proud to recognize and honor the service of NPs to our state;

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 November 8<sup>th</sup> through November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020, as

**NATIONAL NURSE PRACTITIONER WEEK IN ARKANSAS**

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to recognize the many contributions NPs have made over the past half-century and will continue to make to the health and well-being of citizens in our state.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, in the year of our Lord 2020.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor