

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Necrotizing Fasciitis was first described within medical literature in 1883 by Fournier and was originally described as a disease of unknown cause that resulted in Fournier's Gangrene or cell death of the scrotum; and

WHEREAS: It is an uncommon clinical disease of the layers of tissue under the skin that attracts a high profile within the popular media where it is often referred to as the "flesh eating bug or virus;" and

WHEREAS: The most common causes of the disease are the group A hemolytic bacterium, Streptococcus pyogenes, and Staphylococcus aureus, either alone or in combination; other cases are reported to be caused by other types of bacteria including those naturally found within the intestines of normal healthy individuals; and

WHEREAS: Much remains to be done for the treatment of Necrotizing Fasciitis in Arkansas and all around the world; and

WHEREAS: Necrotizing Fasciitis can occur in any age group, although sometimes there are precipitating factors; it is most commonly associated with surgical procedures, but may be seen in those with diabetes mellitus, atherosclerotic vascular disease, malignancy and hypertension; and

WHEREAS: In rare occasions it may occur following minor injuries to the skin, falls, cuts or tears but sometimes is not apparent and can occur in apparently healthy individual;

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 May 2021, as

**NECROTIZING FASCIITIS AWARENESS MONTH**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord 2021.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Asa Hutchinson".

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Thurston".  
John Thurston, Secretary of State