

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: October 5<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> marks Plasma Awareness Week with observances throughout the United States designed to raise awareness of the importance of plasma donation and its impact on patients with rare diseases and its role in fighting COVID-19, to recognize the contributions of plasma donors in saving and improving lives, and to increase understanding about life-saving plasma protein therapies and the conditions they treat; and

WHEREAS: Plasma-derived and recombinant therapies, collectively known as plasma protein therapies, are unique, biologic products for which no substitutes exist and save and improve lives of individuals throughout Arkansas and the United States; and

WHEREAS: Plasma protein therapies are used to treat many conditions including hemophilia and other bleeding disorders, primary immune deficiencies, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, hereditary angioedema, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, and Rh negative pregnancies; and

WHEREAS: Plasma obtained from healthy individuals who overcame coronavirus infections can be used for immediate transfusion and/or for the manufacture of purified antibodies to treat COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: These therapies substantially increase quality of life, extend life expectancy, and improve patient outcomes for an estimated 900 Arkansans; and

WHEREAS: Plasma donors, as well as the staff who work at the 12 plasma donation centers in Arkansas, are recognized as part of the State's essential, critical infrastructure; and

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 5<sup>th</sup> through October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020, as

**PLASMA AWARENESS WEEK IN ARKANSAS**

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of plasma protein therapies and of plasma donations.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 4<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year of our Lord 2020.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor