TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Respiratory care practitioners are a critical part of the team of medical personnel committed to providing high-quality patient care across Arkansas, and are vital to sustaining high standards of health care; and

WHEREAS: These respiratory professionals work in all areas of health care, from the emergency room to critical-care units to medical and surgical units to diagnostics, in skilled-nursing facilities and home-health care; and

WHEREAS: The number of people affected by chronic lung disorders is staggering and these diseases cost Arkansans millions of dollars annually in medical expenses, hospitalization, and physicians visits; and

WHEREAS: Respiratory care practitioners endeavor to educate the public about the prevention and early detection of lung diseases and encourage family physicians to utilize early screening for their patients; and

WHEREAS: Both State and National observances of this week will focus on increasing public awareness of the importance of the early detection of a wide variety of persistent lung disorders;

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 25th through October 31st, 2020, as

RESPIRATORY CARE WEEK

across the State, and I urge my fellow citizens to work together to help raise awareness of the prevalence and serious effects associated with respiratory diseases.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 25th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2020.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor