

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The lives of teenagers, young adults, college students, and their families around the country have been devastated by the effects of substance misuse; and

WHEREAS: According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), young adults, ages 18-25, report the highest rates for illicit drug use of any age group; and

WHEREAS: Institutions of higher education, including two-year public community colleges, four-year public colleges and universities, and private institutions present a unique opportunity for substance misuse outreach among our state's young adults during a critical period in their lives; and

WHEREAS: Save AR Students is a statewide substance misuse awareness campaign aimed at eliminating substance misuse, enhancing social awareness, increasing public support, and boosting general morale on the campuses of every institution of higher education in the state of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Prevention goes beyond "Just Say No" slogans and knowledge of the negative effects of drugs. Effective prevention strategies work to engage, inform, and empower community leaders to address substance misuse to create a healthier Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: These efforts are a part of a larger movement focused on combating the substance misuse epidemic, not only in Arkansas but in all parts of the nation; 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 April 19<sup>th</sup> through April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, as

**SAVE AR STUDENTS WEEK**

across the state, and I encourage all citizens to work to prevent the use and misuse of drugs and the development of substance disorders, especially among young adults.

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.



  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

  
John Thurston, Secretary of State