

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Neuromyelitis optica is a rare autoimmune disease often misdiagnosed as multiple sclerosis; and

WHEREAS: Neuromyelitis optica affects vision and mobility, and currently there is no cure; and

WHEREAS: When mistaken and/or treated for other autoimmune disorders, neuromyelitis optica attacks occur more often and can be aggressive; and

WHEREAS: Neuromyelitis optica occurs when the body's immune system attacks its own cells, primarily the optic nerves and spinal cord causing vision disturbances, blindness, neuropathy pain, mobility deficits, and/or paralysis; and

WHEREAS: Awareness of this disease can help provide more research and better treatments; and

WHEREAS: The neuromyelitis optica community is dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding of this disease in order to promote research, improve patient care and outcomes, and find a cure;

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 March 15th, 2017 as

NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA AWARENESS DAY IN ARKANSAS

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 7th day of March, in the year of our Lord 2017.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State