

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Once thought to be a rare disease, sarcoidosis is now known to affect people of all ages, races, and genders. Sarcoidosis is an inflammatory disease that can affect almost any organ in the body and causes heightened immunity, a condition that results in overreaction of the immune system and results in damage to the body's own tissues; and

WHEREAS: The classic feature of sarcoidosis is the formation of granulomas, microscopic clumps of inflammatory cells that group together, interfering with organ function. In the United States, sarcoidosis most commonly targets the lungs and lymph nodes, but can also affect the skin, eyes, liver, salivary glands, sinuses, kidneys, heart, the muscles and bones, the brain and the nervous system; and

WHEREAS: The exact cause of sarcoidosis is unknown, and research is ongoing; and

WHEREAS: While progress has been made in understanding the symptoms and better diagnosing the disease, there is still much to learn about sarcoidosis, but with increased research, the goal of discovering the cause, improving treatment, and finding a cure is attainable; and

WHEREAS: We salute those who demonstrate great courage and determination in their efforts to cope with the disease; and we pay tribute to their family members and to other concerned Americans who engage in mass efforts to promote awareness of sarcoidosis, as well as improve treatment and support those affected by the disease;

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 2017, as

**SARCOIDOSIS 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 6<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year of our Lord 2017.



*Asa Hutchinson*  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

*Mark Martin*  
Mark Martin, Secretary Of State