

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: More than ninety percent of Arkansas prison inmates eventually are released into the community, and it benefits all Arkansas citizens to increase public safety and reduce prison costs by lowering the number of former inmates who later return to incarceration with new convictions; and

WHEREAS: Reentry assists offenders transitioning from incarceration to a productive, law-abiding life in the community by helping remove barriers through expanded opportunities for employment, housing, healthcare, transportation, and education; and

WHEREAS: A strong and supportive reentry system benefits individual offenders, their families, and their communities; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas reentry efforts depend on a working partnership of governmental agencies, community-based organizations, and volunteers to provide consistent and sustained services, support, and guidance to returning inmates; and

WHEREAS: All Arkansans are encouraged to work together to promote public safety by supporting reentry efforts that offer opportunities, assistance, and hope for individuals returning home from incarceration;

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 23<sup>rd</sup> through April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017, as

**REENTRY AWARENESS WEEK**

across the State, and I encourage all citizens to realize the significance of reentry efforts 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord 2017.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State