

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: October 9th through October 15th marks Plasma Awareness Week with observances throughout the United States designed to raise awareness of the importance of plasma donation and its impact on patients with rare diseases, recognize the contributions of plasma donors to saving and improving lives and to increase understanding about life-saving plasma protein therapies and the conditions they treat; and

WHEREAS: Plasma-derived and recombinant therapies, collectively known as plasma protein therapies, are unique, biologic products for which no substitutes exist, save and improve lives of individuals throughout Arkansas and the United States; and

WHEREAS: Plasma protein therapies are used to treat many conditions including hemophilia and other bleeding disorders, primary immune deficiencies, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, hereditary angioedema, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura and Rh negative pregnancies; and

WHEREAS: These therapies substantially increase quality of life, extend life expectancy and improve patient outcomes for an estimated 1,100 individuals in the state of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Each year, approximately 5,000 pregnant women in Arkansas receive a plasma protein therapy to protect mother and baby from complications due to incompatible blood types; and

WHEREAS: There are eight plasma donation centers in Arkansas certified under the International Quality Plasma Program, where healthy and committed donors provide plasma that is used to manufacture high-impact, life-saving therapies;

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 9th through October 15th, 2016, as

PLASMA AWARENESS WEEK

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of plasma protein therapies and of plasma donations.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 13th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2016.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor



Mark Martin, Secretary Of State