

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The financial world is evolving, and new technologies are constantly being introduced. Financial education is essential now more than ever in helping Arkansans have control over their finances and future; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas ranks higher than the national average in its percentage of the population that is underbanked and unbanked; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas ranks as one of the lowest in the nation for both women's unemployment and earnings and for poverty and opportunity; and

WHEREAS: Nationally, fewer than four in ten individuals have enough money in savings to address an unexpected emergency of \$1,000 or more, and 50% of Arkansans do not have funds set aside to weather an emergency; and

WHEREAS: Financial education can prevent debt problems and provide for a strong foundation upon which Arkansans can build their future, and it plays a key role in helping lead to financial freedom; and

WHEREAS: Many organizations across this great state work to promote financial education and awareness through efforts such as establishing budget strategies, financial goal setting, avoidance of credit card debt, benefits of bank or credit union accounts, training on saving versus spending, and more. These efforts empower Arkansans to make more sound financial decisions; and

WHEREAS: The 93rd General Assembly passed legislation creating the Arkansas Financial Education Commission, which encourages Arkansans to learn more about how to prepare and improve their financial well-being; and

WHEREAS: Throughout the month of April, an awareness campaign will be conducted to highlight the importance of financial literacy, among both young and old, and the need to develop financial capability and capacity;

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 2022, as

FINANCIAL EDUCATION AWARENESS MONTH

across the state, and I encourage Arkansans of all ages to learn more about financial strategies and options.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 3rd day of March, in the year of our Lord 2022.



Asa Hutchinson

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston
John Thurston, Secretary of State