

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;

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

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

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

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

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 savings versus spending, and more. These efforts empower Arkansans to make more sound financial decisions;

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, national awareness campaigns will be conducted to highlight the importance of financial education among both young and old, and the need to develop financial capability and capacity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS, 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 month of April 2023 as

"FINANCIAL EDUCATION AWARENESS MONTH"

And urge the citizens of the state to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 27th day of April, in the year of our Lord 2023.



Sarah Huckabee Sanders

Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor

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John Thurston

John Thurston, Secretary of State