

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The American Legion came to life on March 15, 1919, as members of the American Expeditionary Forces who fought to victory in World War I gathered in the City of Lights for what became known as The American Legion's Paris Caucus; and

WHEREAS: The American Legion was then chartered by Congress on September 16, 1919, as a wartime veterans organization based on the four pillars of Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth; and

WHEREAS: Over the years, the American Legion has become a preeminent community-based service organization which now numbers more than 2.5 million members – men and women – in over 14,000 American Legion posts worldwide working with a variety of programs which support the four pillars founding principles of the American Legion and benefit our nation's veterans, its service members, their families, the youth of America, and its citizens; and

WHEREAS: The members of the American Legion are dedicated to upholding the ideals of freedom and democracy while working to make a difference in the lives of fellow Americans and Arkansans alike; and

WHEREAS: The 100-Year observance of the American Legion's centennial anniversary provides an opportunity to recognize Legionnaires across the Great State of Arkansas for their many contributions; and

WHEREAS: We appreciate the many sacrifices our Legionnaires have made in defending our freedoms and believe it is important that we acknowledge them for their courage and show them the support they have earned by promoting their rich history and legacy; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas wishes to pledge its strong support to Arkansas Legionnaires for their selfless service to God and Country and their fellow citizens;

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 March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, as

**AMERICAN LEGION CENTENNIAL DAY**

across the State, and I urge all citizens to observe with pride all Legionnaires in the State of Arkansas, as we value and reflect on the many sacrifices both they and their families have made to our state and our nation.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 30<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year of our Lord 2019.



*Asa Hutchinson*

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

*John Thurston*  
John Thurston, Secretary Of State