

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The role of the ombuds originated over 200 years ago in Sweden, designated as a government official charged with advocating on behalf of citizens with complaints or problems with the government; and

WHEREAS: Today's ombuds are confidential, independent, and impartial conflict management professionals who work to address individual and systemic issues outside of and complementary to formal channels such as human resources, grievances, complaints, and legal action; and

WHEREAS: Ombuds work in a wide variety of organizations within the State of Arkansas and worldwide, including universities and colleges, governments at all levels, healthcare institutions, corporations, financial institutions, for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, the media, and international organizations; and

WHEREAS: Ombuds' programs provide a valuable form of alternative dispute resolution, add significant value to the constituents and institutions they serve, and are a supplement to formal conflict management processes that address allegedly inappropriate or wrongful conduct; and

WHEREAS: Ombuds provide powerful risk management resources for the organizations they serve; and

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 8th, 2020, as

OMBUDS DAY IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I recognize this day to increase awareness and understanding of the profession, highlight the value ombuds bring to the organizations and constituents they serve, and encourage the greater use of ombuds programs.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 12th day of August, in the year of our Lord 2020.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor