STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS: EO 20–06

EXECUTIVE ORDER TO AMEND EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-03 REGARDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY CONCERNING COVID-19 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING STATE AGENCIES IN RENDERING MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE TO THE CITIZENS OF ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS: An outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has spread throughout China and to 59 other countries and territories, including the United States; and

WHEREAS: COVID-19 has been detected within the State of Arkansas and adjoining states, threatening the public safety of the citizens of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Great hardship has been brought to bear upon the citizens of this state as a result of the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: On March 11, 2020, by Executive Order 20-03, an emergency was declared in the state as a result of COVID-19, and that emergency is on-going; and

WHEREAS: Citizens of the state have been advised to take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including the advisement to minimize person-to-person contact, avoid large gatherings, and to stay home if they feel ill; and

WHEREAS: Laws of this state and rules and regulations of this state require in-person communication to receive services and conduct business; and

WHEREAS: Many citizens of this state are temporarily without employment due to the closure of businesses to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and need immediate access to unemployment benefits.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Asa Hutchinson, Governor of the State of Arkansas, acting under the authority vested in me by Ark. Code Ann. §§ 12-75-101, *et seq.*, do hereby amend Executive Order 20-03 declaring an emergency in the State of Arkansas, and order all state agencies to identify provisions of any regulatory statute, agency order or rule that in any way prevents, hinders, or delays the agency's ability to render maximum assistance to the citizens of this state while they are adhering to guidelines to prohibit the spread of disease or seeking assistance from the state to obtain benefits or services related to health, education, employment, or any service rendered by the state in response to or to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Agencies shall post any identified statutes, orders, and rules to their websites. Once posted by the agency, those identified statutes, orders, and rules are hereby suspended for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this Order; and

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 17th day of March, in the year of our Lord 2020.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

John Thurston, Secretary of State