STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS: EO 20-21

EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE GOVERNOR'S COVID-19 TESTING ADVISORY GROUP

WHEREAS: An outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has spread throughout the world resulting in a global pandemic; 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

WHEREAS: In response to COVID-19, significant targeted measures have been taken by Executive Order and Directives by the Secretary of Health to limit person-to-person contact, restrict gatherings, limit travel into the state, and suspend businesses that require significant person-to-person interaction; and

WHEREAS: On April 13, 2020, the Governor's Medical Advisory Committee for Post-Peak COVID-19 Response was created by Executive Order 20-17 to identify criteria for determining public health strategy after Arkansas reaches the peak of COVID-19 cases; and

WHEREAS: On April 18, 2020, the Governor's Economic Recovery Task Force was created by Executive Order 20-20 to make recommendations necessary to assist with the easing of COVID-19 mitigation measures and the restoration of the Arkansas economy; and

WHEREAS: Public health strategy after the peak of COVID-19 cases and economic recovery measures are dependent upon the state's ability to conduct not only continuous diagnostic testing; but also, surveillance testing across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, acting under the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby order the following:

(1) There is hereby created the Governor's COVID-19 Testing Advisory Group, which shall serve as an investigative and advisory body of the Governor.

(2) The advisory group shall be composed of members appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The advisory group shall be composed of the following individuals, or his or her designee, and any additional members as deemed necessary by the Governor:

(a) Dr. Nathaniel Smith, Arkansas Department of Health;
(b) Dr. Glen Baker, Arkansas Department of Health;
(c) Dr. Naveen Patil, Arkansas Department of Health;
(d) Dr. Katie Seely, Arkansas Department of Health;
(e) Dr. Jennifer Hunt, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences;
(f) Dr. Jose Romero, Arkansas Department of Health, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Arkansas Children's;
(g) Dr. Atul Kothari, Arkansas Department of Health, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences;
(h) Mr. Robin Mitchell, Arkansas Children's;
(i) Dr. Bobby Boyanton, Arkansas Children's;

(3) The advisory group shall develop a strategy to ensure that the state is equipped to continue adequate testing for COVID-19. The advisory group will examine the state's supply of testing equipment and capabilities and make any recommendations necessary to maintain adequate testing capabilities and conduct surveillance testing across the state.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed the 21st day of April, in the year of our Lord 2020.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor