# STATE OF ARKANSAS
## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

# PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS: EO 20-04

**EXECUTIVE ORDER TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY, AS AUTHORIZED BY ARK. CODE ANN. §12-75-114, AND ORDER THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO TAKE ACTION TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, AS AUTHORIZED BY ARK. CODE ANN. §20-7-110.**

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: COVID-19 is a new disease and there is more to learn about how it spreads, the severity of illness it causes, and to what extent it may spread; and

WHEREAS: The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Therefore, isolation and quarantine can be necessary and effective public health measures to control the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS: The Secretary of Health may issue orders of isolation and/or quarantine as necessary and appropriate to control this disease in the State of Arkansas, and the Secretary of Health, in consultation with the Governor, shall have sole authority over all instances of quarantine, isolation, and restrictions on commerce and travel throughout the state; and

WHEREAS: It is essential that our schools and educational institutions remain operational in the most practicable manner possible without jeopardizing public safety; and

WHEREAS: All necessary measures should be implemented to ensure that essential state services remain available to those who depend on them; and

WHEREAS: All necessary measures should be implemented to ensure that citizens maintain access to essential goods and commodities, including, but not limited to, groceries, pharmacy items, household consumables, and fuel; and

WHEREAS: Spread of COVID-19 is likely to impact drivers of commercial vehicles transporting essential items of commerce during this emergency, including but not limited to, groceries, pharmacy items, medical equipment, goods, commodities, fuel, poultry, and livestock. 49 C.F.R. Section 390.23 authorizes a state governor to declare a regional emergency during the duration of the emergency conditions, not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of the initial declaration of emergency, and to exempt any motor carrier or driver operating a commercial motor vehicle to provide direct assistance in providing emergency relief during an emergency from Parts 390 through 399 of Chapter 49, Code of Federal Regulations;

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.*, and § 20-7-110, do hereby amend executive order EO 20-03, dated March 11, 2020, to authorize funds from the Governor's Disaster Fund, Emergency Response Fund, in the amount of $750,000. Such funds will be used at the discretion of the Director of the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management to defray both program and administrative costs; and

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 March, in the year of our Lord 2020.

Asa Hutchinson

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

Attest:

John Thurston

John Thurston, Secretary of State