

# STATE OF ARKANSAS

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

### PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME - GREETINGS:

**WHEREAS:** Agriculture is Arkansas' largest industry and contributes over \$20.9 billion to our state's economy each year;

**WHEREAS:** The economic value of the Arkansas strawberry industry generates an estimated \$2.1 million annually;

**WHEREAS:** Arkansas has more than 35 farms that grow 268 acres of strawberries;

**WHEREAS:** The strawberry industry contributes to the diversification practices of many Arkansas farmers, providing employment and supplemental income for many Arkansans;

**WHEREAS:** Strawberries are grown in all regions of the states and distributed through local markets such as farmers markets, grocery stores, and U-Pick farms; and

**WHEREAS:** Strawberries are a healthy food high in antioxidants, their consumption enhances public health and well-being, and they are enjoyed by Arkansans statewide.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS, 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 May 2024 as

"STRAWBERRY MONTH IN ARKANSAS"

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 30th day of April, in the year of our Lord 2024.



Attest:

Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor

John Thurston, Secretary of State