

# STATE OF ARKANSAS

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

### PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME - GREETINGS:

**WHEREAS:** Agriculture is Arkansas' largest industry and contributes over \$19 billion to our state's economy each year;

**WHEREAS:** The economic value of the Arkansas strawberry industry generates and estimated \$7 million annually;

**WHEREAS:** Arkansas has more than 30 farms that grow 300 acres of strawberries;

**WHEREAS:** The strawberry industry is part of the diversification practices by many of Arkansas' full-time farmers, which provides employment for many of our state's citizens and supplemental income for many rural families on a part-time basis;

**WHEREAS:** Strawberries are grown in all regions of the state, and they supply local markets such as farmers markets, local 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 are enjoyed by Arkansans statewide.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS,** Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2023 as:

**"ARKANSAS STRAWBERRY MONTH"**

And urge the citizens of the state to recognize this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed the 4th day of May, in the year of our Lord 2023.



Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor

Attest:

John Thurston, Secretary of State