

STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME - GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Flooding can be a financially and emotionally devastating occurrence, and most homeowners are not protected against the financial costs of flood damage. Just one inch of water in a home can cause upwards of \$25,000 in damages. In the last 10 years, flooding cost the United States \$40.3 billion in damages;

WHEREAS: Floods can happen almost anywhere. More than 20 percent of flood claims come from properties outside the high-risk flood zone;

WHEREAS: In Arkansas, 200,000 properties including homes, condos, and businesses have a greater than a 26 percent chance of being severely affected by flooding over the next 30 years;

WHEREAS: The most typical form of assistance after a flood is a loan that must be repaid with interest while flood insurance claims are paid even if a disaster is not declared ;

WHEREAS: Flood insurance also protects business owners and renters. Investing in flood insurance empowers Arkansans to protect the lives they have built and provides access to mitigation opportunities;

WHEREAS: Arkansans have invested in more than 12,800 National Flood Insurance Program policies, protecting more than \$2.5 billion dollars in homes and businesses;

WHEREAS: Flood Insurance Week creates an important reminder for every Arkansas homeowner to protect their investments through flood insurance;


WHEREAS: The Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Division, the Arkansas Insurance Department, and the Arkansas Floodplain Management Association, along with other federal, state, local, private, and volunteer agencies, are working to increase homeowner awareness of flood risk and the benefits of flood insurance; and

WHEREAS: Flood insurance can be the difference between recovery and financial devastation, allowing Arkansans to recover faster and more fully, supporting resilient communities and neighborhoods.

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 March 4-8, 2024, as

"FLOOD INSURANCE AWARENESS WEEK 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 21st day of February, in the year of our Lord 2024.



Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor



Attest:



John Thurston, Secretary of State