

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The role of the ombuds originated over 200 years ago in Sweden and are designated government officials charged with advocating on behalf of citizens with complaints or problems with the government; and

WHEREAS: Today's ombuds are confidential, independent, and impartial conflict management professionals who work to address individual and systemic issues outside of and complementary to formal channels such as human resources, grievances, complaints, and legal action; and

WHEREAS: Ombuds work in a wide variety of organizations within Arkansas and worldwide, including universities and colleges, governments at all levels, healthcare institutions, corporations, financial institutions, for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, the media, and international organizations; and

WHEREAS: Ombuds programs provide a valuable form of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and significant value to the constituents and institutions they serve, and are an essential supplement to formal conflict management processes that address allegedly inappropriate or wrongful conduct; and

WHEREAS: Recognition of this day is an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the profession, highlight the value ombuds bring to the organizations and constituents they serve, and encourage the greater use of ombuds programs; and

WHEREAS: Citizens of Arkansas are encouraged to become familiar with the ombuds profession and the professional in this role across sectors, and to make use of these essential services as needed;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, 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 October 13th, 2022, as

OMBUDS DAY IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I recognize this day to increase awareness and understanding of the profession, highlight the value ombuds bring to the organizations and constituents they serve, and encourage the greater use of ombuds programs.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 18th day of May, in the year of our Lord 2022.



Asa Hutchinson

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

John Thurston
John Thurston, Secretary of State