

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME - GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: An extraordinary occasion has arisen making it necessary to convene the 90th General Assembly into extraordinary session; and

WHEREAS: There are approximately 250,000 Arkansans under 138% of the federal poverty level who are receiving health insurance coverage through the Health Care Independence Program; and

WHEREAS: Act No. 46 of 2015 was signed into law ending the Health Care Independence Program, also known as the Private Option, as of December 31, 2016; and

WHEREAS: There is an urgent need for the State of Arkansas to determine the future of healthcare coverage for those under 138% of the federal poverty level; and

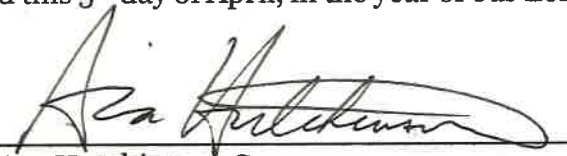
WHEREAS: There are serious financial and budget consequences to the State of Arkansas if the General Assembly does not act promptly; and

WHEREAS: There is a need to create a fiscally sustainable, cost-effective, and opportunity driven program that empowers individuals to improve their economic security and achieve self-reliance, that builds on private insurance market competition and value-based insurance purchasing models, that strengthens the ability of employers to recruit and retain productive employees, and that achieves comprehensive and innovative healthcare reform that can reduce state and federal obligations for entitlement spending.

NOW THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by Article 6, Section 19 of the Arkansas Constitution, do hereby call an Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly to convene in Little Rock on Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., and I do hereby specify that the General Assembly is convened in such Session to consider, and, if so advised, enact laws for the following purposes:

1. To provide for the payment of expenses and per diem of the House of Representatives and the Senate for this Extraordinary Session.
2. To create the Arkansas Works Program and amend Title 23 of the Arkansas Code to provide health insurance or medical assistance to individuals who are in the eligibility category created by section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1396a.
3. To confirm gubernatorial appointees.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 5th day of April, in the year of our Lord 2016.


Asa Hutchinson, Governor




Mark Martin, Secretary Of State