TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day in Arkansas was founded nine years ago in Fayetteville as an effort to protect pedestrians and motorists from harm at crosswalks; and

WHEREAS: In 2010, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), there were 4,280 pedestrians killed by motorists in the United States, and 37 of these were Arkansans; and

WHEREAS: Approximately every 120 minutes, a pedestrian is killed in our country from injuries caused by a traffic accident, and pedestrians are injured every nine minutes by a vehicle on a public traffic way; and

WHEREAS: By law, drivers are required to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians crossing streets in marked or unmarked crosswalks in most situations; however, pedestrians need to be especially careful at intersections where the driver is turning onto another street, as many drivers fail to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians in their paths; and

WHEREAS: Pedestrians are encouraged to cross the street at designated crosswalks; to stop and look left, right, and left again before crossing; to increase visibility at night by carrying a flashlight and wearing retro-reflective clothing; and to walk on a sidewalk whenever possible;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE BEEBE, 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 10, 2012, as

CROSSWALK SAFETY AWARENESS DAY

across the State of Arkansas, and I urge my fellow citizens in schools, homes, and offices to discuss crosswalk safety because increasing awareness for safety is positive prevention.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 7th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2012.

MIKE BEEBE, GOVERNOR

MARK MARTIN, SECRETARY OF STATE