STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Every year, chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, and diabetes are responsible for millions of premature deaths. Additionally, Americans miss 2.5 billion days of work because of these illnesses, and all of that lost productivity adds up to more than one-trillion dollars; and

WHEREAS: Injuries, unexpected accidents, and violence affect people daily in all aspects of life. Unintentional injuries, such as motor-vehicle crashes, poisonings, and burns, rank among the top-ten causes of death for people aged 44 and younger; and

WHEREAS: Since 1995, when the first full week of April was declared National Public Health Week (NPHW), communities across the United States have observed NPHW as a time to recognize the contributions of public health organizations and highlight issues that are important to improving the well-being of our Nation; and

WHEREAS: The American Public Health Association (APHA) serves as the lead organizer of NPHW, and with the help of its 50,000 members and hundreds of organizational partners, makes every effort to educate the public, policymakers, and practitioners about the importance of public health; and

WHEREAS: Americans are living 78 years on average, but only 69 of these years are spent in good health; preventing diseases before they start is critical to helping people live longer, healthier lives while managing health-related costs;

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 April 2 through 8, 2012, as

NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK IN ARKANSAS

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to increase awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle, regular exercise, medical check-ups, early detection, and preventive health practices.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 14th day of March, in the year of our Lord 2012.

MIKE BEEBE, GOVERNOR

Mark Martin

MARK MARTIN, SECRETARY OF STATE