July 1, 2019

Governor Asa Hutchinson
State Capitol Room 250
500 Woodlane Ave.
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Lakes Appreciation Month Proclamation

Governor Hutchinson,

The Arkansas Chapter of the American Water Resources Association fully supports the recent proclamation “Lakes Appreciation Month” submitted by Beaver Watershed Alliance (the Alliance) and North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) in efforts to promote enjoyment, awareness, and stewardship of our lakes, ponds, reservoirs, and their watersheds throughout July. With over a half-million acres of reservoirs in Arkansas, summer is a great time to encourage all Arkansans to appreciate the lakes of our Natural State by participating in recreational activities such as swimming and boating, taking care of lakes, and enjoying the scenic beauty and benefits provided by them – including drinking water for much of the state.

In addition to Lakes Appreciation Month being a time to appreciate lakes, it is a time to think about where we would be without their water, and the importance of partnerships to protect natural resources from threats such as excess sediment and nutrients and invasive plant and animal species that put stress on waterbodies. The importance of protecting these lakes and reservoirs for future generations is critical to our quality of life, communities, wildlife, and potential for future growth and economic development.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Benjamin Gilley
President
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