

(Text of Gov. Mike Beebe's Proclamation)

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME — GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, for many decades, community developers have been pursuing a vision of excellence by raising awareness, building consensus, and coming up with the resources to improve social conditions and economic performance in communities, regions and states; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Little Rock Branch promotes a culture of innovation in organizations and communities, so that people can turn ideas into results; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Little Rock Branch works to foster greater awareness, recognition, and support for community development beginning with The Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) of 1977, which encourages banks to help meet the credit needs of the communities in which they operate, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Exploring Innovation in Community Development Week is to draw national attention to innovation in the community development industry and its important role in American life; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas salutes the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Little Rock Branch for sponsoring this important event to showcase innovative community development strategies and foster long-term solutions to unmet community needs in our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike Beebe, acting under the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim April 14-18 2008, as

Exploring Innovation in Community Development Week

in the State of Arkansas, and urge all Arkansans to recognize and celebrate the contributions and dedication of The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Little Rock Branch, whose efforts promote a culture of innovation in the State of Arkansas. May the observance of Exploring Innovation in Community Development Week appropriately commemorate the significance of innovation to the Arkansas community and express gratitude to those who support innovation as critical to successful and sustainable community development activities.

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 April, in the year of our Lord 2008.