WHEREAS, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in both men and women in the United States, each year taking the lives of more Americans than breast, prostate, colon, liver, and kidney cancers combined; and

WHEREAS, individuals who have quit smoking and people who have never smoked comprise more than half of the new cases of lung cancer each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 70% of new lung cancer cases are diagnosed at a late stage, with only a 15% 5-year survival rate; and

WHEREAS, increased availability and use of the early diagnosis and management protocols for lung cancer have the potential to improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 2005 as

LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to raise awareness of lung cancer issues and offer compassion to all those it affects.