WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of death from cancer in the United States; and

WHEREAS, this year, an estimated 2,300 South Carolinians will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and approximately 890 will die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, in addition to contributing to a 90% survival rate by finding colorectal cancer in a localized stage that is more easily treated, early detection methods can actually prevent the disease through the identification and removal of pre-cancerous polyps; and

WHEREAS, despite the availability of effective early detection and treatment possibilities, colorectal screening remains an under-utilized tool in the fight against this type of cancer.

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

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the critical role that early detection screening tests have in reducing the incidence of death from this disease.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA