WHEREAS, it is currently estimated that over one-half of all crimes committed in South Carolina are directly related to drugs, many resulting in violence and threats of violence to the person and property of the citizens of this State and being in all cases disruptive of the peace, tranquility, and good order in this state; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina ranks near the top in the Nation in the number of marijuana plants seized by drug enforcement agencies and has experienced significant increases in the use, possession and distribution of illegal drugs, including heroin and cocaine, as reflected in the arrest records therefor; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina needs and desires to take definitive action to prevent and restrict the availability, importation and presence of illegal drugs in and to this State and to thereby reduce the criminal activity resulting therefrom and associated therewith; and

WHEREAS, Title 32, United States Code, Section 112 authorizes funding assistance to the Governor of any State for the pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel and related expenses of personnel of a State's National Guard when used for the purpose of drug interdiction and counter-drug activities, or for the operation and maintenance of equipment and facilities of such State's National Guard in support of such activities; and
WHEREAS, South Carolina needs a concerted statewide effort to combat these drug related problems and illegal activities, to include the use of personnel of the South Carolina National Guard when not otherwise engaged in Federal service or annual training required by Title 32, United States Code, Section 502;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and Laws of this State as Commander-in-Chief of the South Carolina National Guard, I hereby authorize and direct:

1. That the Adjutant General of this State shall develop and submit annual plans to the National Guard Bureau of the Office of the Secretary of Defense proposing the utilization of South Carolina National Guard support to drug interdiction and counter-drug activities within or affecting this State and seeking Federal approval and funding assistance therefor.

2. That upon Federal approval and funding given to such annual plans, the South Carolina Army National Guard and South Carolina Air National Guard shall provide support to Federal and State law enforcement authorities engaged in counter-narcotics activities, consistent with the laws of this State and the availability of South Carolina National Guard personnel, equipment and facilities, in furtherance of such approved plans and memoranda of agreement associated therewith.

3. That the Adjutant General is hereby authorized to request volunteers from personnel of the South Carolina National Guard to assist federal, state or local law enforcement authorities, within or without the boundaries of the State of South Carolina in accordance with such approved plans and memoranda of agreement associated therewith, and to order such volunteers to duty with their consent in a federally funded status pursuant to Title 32, United States Code.
4. That South Carolina National Guard personnel assisting in the activities authorized herein will obey and execute the general instructions of the civil authorities, charged by law with responsibility for law enforcement, through their military chain of command.


CARROLL A. CAMPBELL, JR.
Governor

ATTEST:

JAMES M. MILES
Secretary of State