WHEREAS, I. Rudy Loadholt, Sheriff of Hampton County, was indicted by the Hampton County Grand Jury on August 26, 1993, of two counts of criminal sexual conduct, two counts of attempted criminal sexual conduct, and five counts of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature; and

WHEREAS, I am informed that I. Rudy Loadholt will be brought to trial pursuant to said indictments; and,

WHEREAS, at least one or more of these counts are considered ones of moral turpitude; and,

WHEREAS, Article VI, § 8 of the South Carolina Constitution requires the Governor to suspend any officer of the State or its political subdivisions who is indicted for a crime on a charge involving moral turpitude; and,

WHEREAS, § 23-11-40(C) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976 (Cum. Supp., 1992), requires the Governor to appoint some suitable person to fill a vacancy in the office of sheriff in a county in the event of suspension by the Governor upon the sheriff's indictment; and,
WHEREAS, I as Governor of the State of South Carolina am mindful of the duties and responsibilities vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and Laws of the state of South Carolina, I hereby order that Mr. I. Rudy Loadholt, Sheriff of Hampton County, be suspended from the office of Sheriff of Hampton County until such time as he shall be formally acquitted. I hereby appoint Mr. James O. Freeman, Post Office Box 162, Varnville, South Carolina, 29944, to hold the office of sheriff of Hampton County until the suspended sheriff is acquitted or the indictment is otherwise disposed of, or until a sheriff is elected and qualifies in the next general election for county sheriff, whichever event occurs first.

This action in no manner addresses itself to the question of guilt or innocence of Isaiah Rudolph Loadholt and shall not be construed as an expression of an opinion as to such a question.


CARROLL A. CAMPBELL, JR.
Governor

ATTEST:

JAMES M. MILES
Secretary of State