WHEREAS, appropriate early learning standards are vital to quality education opportunities for the children of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive community-based school readiness programs that work are essential to the future academic success of our youngest learners; and

WHEREAS, this year’s theme, “Bring Communities Together for Children – Children Bring Communities Together,” draws attention to a broad coalition of school readiness partners, including business, faith, education, health and nonprofit communities throughout the Palmetto State, that is committed to strengthening quality public and private early education and child care choices for parents; and

WHEREAS, the incorporation of quality standards for all school readiness partners, public and private, promotes choice for families and more efficient use of resources while supporting the accountability of an effective early learning system in our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 19-25, 2009, as

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the importance of quality early childhood education opportunities for our youngest learners to enhance their future success.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA