

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** African-American history is the chronicle of men and women who prevailed with extraordinary courage and faith against centuries of slavery and discrimination to build lives for themselves and their families, while contributing immeasurably to the strength and character of our nation; and

**WHEREAS,** for much of the past century, the contributions that African-Americans and other minorities have made to our nation's progress have not been fully recognized; and

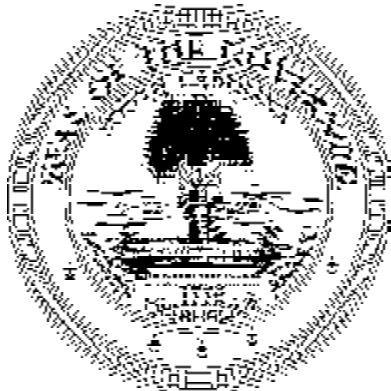
**WHEREAS,** generations of African-Americans have served our nation and the State of South Carolina in positions of distinction, including doctors and scientists, teachers and factory workers, soldiers and athletes, contributing significantly to our economic well-being and to our rich cultural heritage; and

**WHEREAS,** the annual observance of "African-American History Month" celebrates the many achievements of and contributions made by African-Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 2003 as

### AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the continued need to battle racism, to pursue equal opportunity and equal justice, and to build a society that fully lives up to its democratic ideals.



A stylized, high-contrast signature of Mark Sanford.

**MARK SANFORD**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**