WHEREAS, the United States Armed Forces are celebrating the 30th anniversary of the All Volunteer Force on July 1, 2003; and

WHEREAS, while the All Volunteer Force began as an experiment during the Cold War, the quality and success of this uniquely American phenomenon remain unprecedented and, today, these forces serve in more than 100 nations around the world; and

WHEREAS, All Volunteer Force Day recognizes the thousands of young Americans who have answered and will continue to answer the call to service; and

WHEREAS, these brave men and women are voluntarily foregoing comfort and wealth, facing hardship and sacrifice, and confronting danger in the defense of our nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim July 1, 2003, as

ALL VOLUNTEER FORCE DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to reflect upon the profound sense of duty, integrity, and personal courage exhibited by the members of our volunteer forces.