WHEREAS, throughout our country’s history, music has played a prominent role in all aspects of the lives of Americans, enhancing worship and spirituality, providing entertainment, promoting patriotism, and preserving the history and heritage of the various people who migrated to our shores; and

WHEREAS, the music of America has been influenced by diverse cultures and circumstances, evolving into many different genres that affect people around the world; and

WHEREAS, from gospel, blues and jazz to folk, rock, and country, American music touches lives with its soulful strains, foot-stomping beat, inspirational lyrics, and patriotic themes.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 2006 as

AMERICAN MUSIC MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to honor our American Music composers and performers.