WHEREAS, with residents in Beaufort as early as 1760, the Jewish population originally met for worship in homes, apartments over stores, and other locations; and

WHEREAS, by 1905, the Jewish community had increased sufficiently to support the construction of a synagogue, and Beth Israel Congregation was granted a charter by the State of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Beth Israel has become an enduring presence in Beaufort, with services continuing in the original synagogue dedicated in 1908; and

WHEREAS, Beth Israel Congregation is commemorating 100 years of spiritual worship, education, fellowship and faith.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2, 2005, as

BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION
100TH ANNIVERSARY DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to celebrate the many contributions and rich history of the synagogue and its congregation.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA