WHEREAS, with their roots in the blue star flag which was created in 1917 and hung in windows to indicate that a family member was serving in the armed forces, the Blue Star Mothers of America was established in 1942; and

WHEREAS, sharing a commitment to the original goals of bringing their sons home, working to ensure they received the benefits they deserved, and supporting each other, today's Blue Star Mothers volunteer in hospitals and outreach centers, prepare care packages, and provide food, transportation, and friendship; and

WHEREAS, Blue Star Mothers work together to uphold freedom, justice, and equal rights; and

WHEREAS, united by pride in their children and their country, Blue Star Mothers provide support for our servicemen and women, and for each other, while promoting patriotism in our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 4 - 10, 2007, as

BLUE STAR MOTHERS WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to honor our mothers who now have, or have had, sons and daughters in military service.