

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

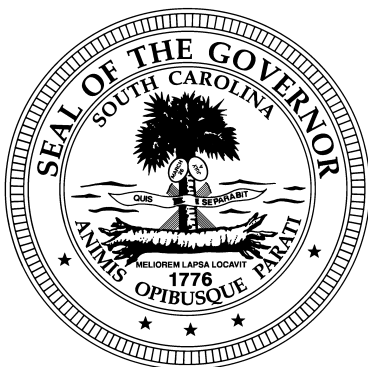
WHEREAS, generations of African-Americans have served our nation and the State of South Carolina in positions of distinction, including doctors and scientists, teachers and factory workers, soldiers and athletes, positively impacting our economic well-being and our rich cultural heritage; and

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 2004 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 handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA