WHEREAS, thousands of South Carolinians are affected by diseases of the brain, including depression, stroke, schizophrenia, epilepsy, Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, and other neurological disorders; and

WHEREAS, these brain diseases cause considerable pain and suffering and loss of quality of life for those afflicted; and

WHEREAS, rapid progress and technological advances in biomedical and neuroscience research promise relief for South Carolinians suffering from these devastating conditions; and

WHEREAS, organizations including scientific institutions, patient advocacy groups, universities, teaching hospitals, government agencies, service groups, and schools have joined together in a unique partnership to raise public awareness of the benefits of brain research.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 15 – 21, 2004, as

BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the importance of brain research in the quality of life of our residents.