WHEREAS, more than 100,000 students across the Palmetto State participate in special education programs under the direction of thousands of teachers and related service providers; and

WHEREAS, with their unique knowledge and skills, special education professionals play an integral role in meeting the diverse needs of exceptional students; and

WHEREAS, special educators help ensure that our exceptional children receive an appropriate education, regardless of disability.

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

EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATORS, EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the importance of special education to exceptional students across the Palmetto State.