WHEREAS, the Peace Corps has become an enduring symbol of our nation’s commitment to encourage progress, create opportunity, and expand advancement at the grass-roots level in the developing world; and

WHEREAS, over the past 45 years, more than 182,000 Americans, including 1,162 men and women from the Palmetto State, have served as Peace Corps Volunteers in 138 countries; and

WHEREAS, Peace Corps Volunteers have made significant contributions around the world in agriculture, business development, information technology, education, health, and the environment, improving the lives of individuals and communities and strengthening the ties of friendship and understanding between the people of the United States and those of other countries; and

WHEREAS, enriched by their experiences overseas, Peace Corps Volunteers offer communities across our country a deeper understanding of other cultures and traditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 27 – March 5, 2006, as

PEACE CORPS WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the achievements of the Peace Corps and honor its volunteers, past and present.