WHEREAS, hemophilia is a bleeding disorder found primarily in men; and

WHEREAS, due to a missing or low-level protein, patients are unable to form blood clots properly when cut or injured; and

WHEREAS, while hemophilia is genetically inherited, approximately one-third of newly diagnosed cases occur in families with no prior history; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 observance of Hemophilia Awareness Month calls attention to the need for continued research into the treatment and possible cure of hemophilia.

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

HEMOPHILIA AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to raise awareness of this disorder.