WHEREAS, Parkinson’s disease is a chronic, progressive neurological disorder that affects an estimated one and one half million Americans; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson’s disease has four major symptoms, including trembling in the hands, arms, legs, jaw and face, stiffness of the limbs and trunk, slowness of movement and impaired balance and coordination, which generally lead to difficulty in walking, talking or completing other simple tasks; and

WHEREAS, even though there is presently no cure for this disease, medications are available to help manage the symptoms; and

WHEREAS, research continues into the causes and possible cure and is contributing to the development of improved treatment options that can help enhance the quality of life for people affected by Parkinson’s disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2007 as

PARKINSON’S AWARENESS MONTH

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