WHEREAS, adequate housing is essential for healthy families and communities; and

WHEREAS, tragically, many people in our country have no home of their own and must seek refuge with family and friends or in emergency shelters; and

WHEREAS, rising costs and a shortage of rental and single family homes create additional barriers to adequate housing for many of our most vulnerable people; and

WHEREAS, Homeless Persons Memorial Day calls attention to the problem of homelessness while encouraging people across South Carolina and the nation to reach out and help those in need.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim December 21, 2005, as

HOMELESS PERSONS MEMORIAL DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to combat the conditions responsible for homelessness, including poverty, lack of affordable housing, lack of access to health care, and insufficient emergency resources.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA