Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, South Carolina recognizes the value of combining technology and education to help reduce injuries and deaths from fire; and

WHEREAS, smoke alarm technology is a proven lifesaver, cutting the risk of dying in a home fire nearly in half; and

WHEREAS, advance home escape planning is vitally important to escaping a fire safely, reducing the chances of death and injury even further; and

WHEREAS, this year’s fire safety theme, “When Fire Strikes: Get Out! Stay Out!,” serves as a reminder to leave right away when the smoke alarm goes off and to stay out until firefighters say it is safe to go back inside; and

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal and the state fire service are dedicated to protecting life and property from the devastating effects of fire; and

WHEREAS, state fire prevention efforts are further supported by the activities of the South Carolina Fire and Life Safety Education Association, South Carolina State Firefighters Association, South Carolina Association of State Fire Chiefs, South Carolina State Fire Marshal’s Association, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, South Carolina Safe Kids, American Red Cross, and other state and national organizations committed to fire and life safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 5 – 11, 2003, as FIRE PREVENTION WEEK throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to participate in fire prevention activities at home, work, and school and to heed the message that “When Fire Strikes: Get Out! Stay Out!”