WHEREAS, the health of our citizens is enhanced through good dental habits learned early and reinforced throughout life; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina’s lowest income children are the most susceptible to poor oral hygiene due to a lack of education and access to quality dental health care; and

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Dental Association is dedicated to supporting good dental health habits for our young people as a means to preventing dental disease; and

WHEREAS, the members of the South Carolina Dental Association are participating in the American Dental Association’s “Give Kids A Smile Program” to educate, assess, and improve the oral hygiene of South Carolina’s most vulnerable population.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 2003 as

CHILDREN’S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

and February 21, 2003, as

GIVE KIDS A SMILE DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to promote good dental health habits among the young people of the Palmetto State.