WHEREAS, Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), the leading genetic killer of children under the age of two, is a group of inherited and often fatal diseases that destroys the nerves controlling voluntary muscle movement; and

WHEREAS, SMA crosses all ethnic, racial and socioeconomic boundaries, and can strike anyone of any age or gender; and

WHEREAS, SMA patients are classified into four types based on milestones achieved at the onset of SMA with Types I and II being the most prevalent; and

WHEREAS, the observance of SMA Awareness Month provides an opportunity to help raise awareness and promote research into this devastating disease.

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

SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to help raise awareness and find a cure for SMA.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA