WHEREAS, from our nation’s earliest beginnings, America has inspired the hopes and dreams of countless individuals from around the world who have come to share in our gifts of freedom, justice, and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the Scots-Irish, or Ulster-Scots, were a group of people originally from Scotland who emigrated to Northern Ireland and then came to the Americas; and

WHEREAS, throughout our history, America has welcomed countless Scots-Irish or Ulster-Scots immigrants to its shores, including many who formed settlements in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, through their strong spirit and character, these immigrants made lives for themselves and their families, drawing on the hope and perseverance of their Scots-Irish heritage to succeed in a new land; and

WHEREAS, Scots-Irish Month provides an opportunity to recognize the contributions of the Scots-Irish in the formation of our nation and in the creation of our rich heritage.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 2004, as

SCOTS-IRISH MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to celebrate the accomplishments of Scots-Irish Americans in the Palmetto State.