

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, approximately 70,000 people die each year in the United States as a result of complications from influenza-related illnesses, with people age 65 and older accounting for as many as 80-90% of these deaths; and

WHEREAS, despite the effectiveness and availability of Medicare Part-B covered vaccines, flu and pneumonia remain the fifth leading cause of death among the elderly; and

WHEREAS, immunization rates for influenza and pneumococcal show that these preventive measures are underutilized by Medicare beneficiaries in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, during Senior Vaccination Season, statewide partnerships will be strengthened between health departments, federally qualified health centers, pharmacists, hospitals, and physicians to help increase adult immunization rates in the Palmetto State.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 1, 2003 – March 31, 2004, as

SENIOR VACCINATION SEASON

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to spread the senior vaccination message throughout their communities.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA