WHEREAS, with programs in children's hospitals, pediatric and family practices, and community health care centers across the state, Reach Out and Read promotes early literacy by making books a routine part of pediatric health care; and

WHEREAS, Reach Out and Read - South Carolina has more than 120 programs which serve 93,000 children with more than 170,000 books each year; and

WHEREAS, Reach Out and Read programs in communities across the Palmetto State help ensure that children enter school prepared to learn and ready to succeed.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 7, 2007, as REACH OUT AND READ - SC DAY throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to celebrate the valuable contributions of this program to pediatric literacy in the Palmetto State.