WHEREAS, laboratory medicine is a critical part of sustaining high quality health care, with billions of laboratory tests performed in the United States each year; and

WHEREAS, laboratory professionals, including pathologists, medical technologists, cytotechnologists, histotechnologists, medical technicians, histological technicians and phlebotomists, are well-educated and highly trained specialists who perform and evaluate laboratory tests to detect and diagnose disease and monitor treatment; and

WHEREAS, with the theme “Quality Care from Quality Professionals,” the 2007 observance emphasizes the essential role of medical laboratory professionals who, as members of the health care team, use state-of-the-art technology to provide answers and guide cures.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 22–28, 2007, as MEDICAL LABORATORY PROFESSIONALS WEEK throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the importance of medical laboratory professionals to the delivery of quality health care services.