WHEREAS, a well-informed public is vital to our democratic society; and

WHEREAS, conducting government business openly enables the people of our state to be knowledgeable about the formulation of public policy as well as the people involved in the process; and

WHEREAS, enacted in 1978, the Freedom of Information Act restricts privacy in all levels of government and ensures that people of the Palmetto State have timely access to the activities of their public officials with minimum expense.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 13 – 19, 2004, as

OPEN GOVERNMENT WEEK

And September 19, 2004, as

SUNSHINE SUNDAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the important role of open government to the democratic process.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA