WHEREAS, skilled, affordable, and accessible health care contributes to the well-being and quality of life of the residents of the Palmetto State; and

WHEREAS, physician assistants are highly-trained medical professionals who provide quality preventative and health care to millions of Americans as important members of the health care team; and

WHEREAS, physician assistants perform medical histories and physical exams, order and interpret diagnostic tests, make diagnoses, and prescribe and monitor treatments, including writing prescriptions for non-controlled medications; and

WHEREAS, physician assistants in South Carolina are dedicated to upholding the highest standards of professionalism.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 6, 2004, as

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize physician assistants for their efforts to ensure that the residents of the Palmetto State receive the highest quality health care.