WHEREAS, graduation from high school or college is a major accomplishment, particularly for young people in foster care whose lives are often filled with instability and impermanence; and

WHEREAS, through their perseverance, dedication, and hard work, the young people in foster care who have reached this significant milestone have helped secure a brighter future for themselves; and

WHEREAS, the 2003 celebration of “Foster Care Graduate Recognition Day” calls attention to the educational achievements of our young people in foster care, honoring them for their commitment to achieving their ambitions and aspirations, while recognizing the positive role played by foster families in helping them set and reach goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 6, 2003, as

FOSTER CARE GRADUATE RECOGNITION DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to honor our foster care graduates for working hard to overcome adversity and secure their future success.