WHEREAS, international education is of vital importance today as we face various challenges, including global trade, cultural diversity, and national security; and

WHEREAS, building understanding and respect for others, international education programs enable students to learn other languages, experience other cultures, and develop a broader knowledge of foreign governments and political issues; and

WHEREAS, exposing our students to other languages and cultures will better equip them to help resolve international problems and to encourage countries to work as partners to advance peace and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 observance of International Education Week promotes international education as a way of providing our young people with the experience and skills needed to meet the challenges of an increasingly interdependent world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 15 – 19, 2004, as

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the importance of international education in preparing our young people to be leaders of our state and nation.