WHEREAS, primary care health professionals represent the effort of communities across the country to develop their own solutions to providing access to comprehensive health care services to the underinsured and uninsured, offering preventive health care services and seeing patients on a regular basis in an effort to maintain long-term relationships and continuity of care; and

WHEREAS, piloted in 1999, National Primary Care Week was created in response to the crisis of America’s underserved communities, in recognition of primary care’s enormous impact on basic human health, and in promotion of careers in primary care for all types of health professionals; and

WHEREAS, with the theme, “Advocacy for Health: A Professional Responsibility”, the 2003 observance of National Primary Care Week aims to educate health professions students about the importance of community-responsive primary care and to encourage their collaboration as members of future health care teams.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 19–25, 2003, as PRIMARY CARE WEEK throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the importance of general practitioners and primary care providers to our healthcare delivery system.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA