Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, premature birth is a serious and growing problem, affecting one in every 8 mothers and their babies in the United States; and

WHEREAS, premature birth is the leading cause of newborn death in America; and

WHEREAS, premature babies can suffer lifelong consequences, such as chronic health problems or developmental disabilities, putting a strain on families and society; and

WHEREAS, Premature Birth Awareness Day provides an opportunity to work together to learn more about the causes and prevention of premature birth.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 18, 2003, as PREMATURE BIRTH AWARENESS DAY throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the importance of research into the causes and prevention of premature birth.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA