

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, sometimes called "The Silent Thief of Sight," glaucoma is a group of diseases that can damage the optic nerve and cause permanent loss of vision that starts in the peripheral area and, if left untreated, spreads to the central part of the eye; and

WHEREAS, glaucoma is one of the leading causes of blindness in the United States with increased risk factors that include age, eye trauma, family history of the disease and long-term use of steroid medication; and

WHEREAS, although glaucoma cannot be prevented, early diagnosis and treatment can help control the disease and slow the process of vision loss.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim January 2011 as

GLAUCOMA AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to help raise awareness of this disease and the importance of early detection and treatment to control it.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA