

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, established as a collaborative initiative between the University of South Carolina Student Government and the South Carolina Center for Children's Books and Literacy in the university's School of Library and Information Science to reduce illiteracy in the Palmetto State, Cocky's Reading Express made its first school visit on December 12, 2005; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that strong reading skills provide the foundation essential for future learning and success, Cocky's Reading Express makes reading fun and exciting and motivates children to read each day; and

WHEREAS, generous financial support from various sources, including BP America, the Boeing Company, Verizon, and the Barbara Bush Literacy Fund, has enabled Cocky's Reading Express to visit schools in all 46 counties across the state, distribute 100,000 books to elementary students, and expand the program to feature family education addressing traditional literacy and life skills including financial, nutritional, health care, and environmental literacies; and

WHEREAS, touching students and families in every county of the state, Cocky's Reading Express fosters a lifelong love of reading and increased literacy for people of all ages.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim December 12 - 18, 2015, as

COCKY'S READING EXPRESS 10TH ANNIVERSARY WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to celebrate this program and its achievements and to recognize the significant impact Cocky's Reading Express has on the quality of life of the residents of the Palmetto State.



NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA