

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, the use of alcohol during pregnancy is the number one cause of adverse effects for babies in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, approximately one in every 300 babies in the Palmetto State is born with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, and one in every 50 has a wider range of alcohol-related neurodevelopmental issues and other birth defects that fall in the category known as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders; and

WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders are irreversible, lifelong conditions found among babies whose mothers consumed alcohol during pregnancy and are the leading cause of intellectual disability; and

WHEREAS, the physical, mental, and cognitive effects of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders are totally preventable; and

WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders require a multi-level approach for diagnosis and interventions to prevent the secondary disabilities that impact individuals, families, communities, and state resources; and

WHEREAS, the use of new scientific information can help our state rise to the challenges of prevention, diagnosis, and assisting those affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 9, 2016, as

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS AWARENESS DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to help ensure the brightest possible future for the children of the Palmetto State.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA