

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, generations of African Americans have served our state and nation with extraordinary faith and courage, sharing their talents and contributing to our history and heritage; and

WHEREAS, during the American Revolution, it is estimated that 5,000 black men were soldiers in the Continental Army, hundreds more served as seamen, and countless others performed selfless acts of patriotism behind the scenes of conflict; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina was home to 121 of these courageous, forgotten patriots who left their homes in areas including Barnwell, Beaufort, Orangeburg, Richland, Spartanburg, and Union Counties to assist in the war of independence; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of these African American patriots of the Revolutionary War era has had a significant impact on the development of our state and nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 21 - 27, 2016, as

FORGOTTEN PATRIOTS WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to learn more about these African American patriots and celebrate their contributions to our country's fight for independence and cultural evolution.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA