

WHEREAS, afterschool programs keep kids safe, help working families, and improve academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs give students the opportunity to develop new skills and talents, participate in physical activities, explore art and music, and get help with difficult subjects; and

WHEREAS, *Lights On Afterschool* is a nationwide event designed to call attention to afterschool programs and the benefits they provide for children, families, and communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 22, 2009, as

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the positive impact of safe, affordable afterschool programs and activities on the future success of our students and quality of life for our families and communities.