

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** children are our most precious resource, and their safety in and around water requires diligent observation by parents and caregivers; and

**WHEREAS,** drowning is a leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children ages 1 to 4; and

**WHEREAS,** it takes only seconds to drown, often occurring without a sound when an unsupervised child is near water or water hazards including buckets of water, bathtubs, toilets, puddles, spas, pools, ponds, lakes, rivers, and oceans; and

**WHEREAS,** along with strict parental or adult supervision in bathtubs and around water, the prevention of drowning involves basic water safety measures such as the use of personal flotation devices on boats and as needed in water, swimming lessons and an understanding of skill levels, knowledge of water depth and underwater hazards before diving, water safety classes, and CPR training; and

**WHEREAS,** knowledge of water safety rules and programs and understanding the need for families and children to remain vigilant about safety around all bodies of water are of vital importance in the prevention of drowning and water-related injuries.

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

### CHILDHOOD DROWNING PREVENTION MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to help reduce injuries and tragic loss of life by practicing water safety at all times.



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

**NIKKI R. HALEY**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**