

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, on September 13 - 14, 1814, American forces successfully defended Fort McHenry against a 25-hour bombardment by the British fleet, effectively ending the Chesapeake Campaign of the War of 1812; and

WHEREAS, observing the assault from a truce vessel situated approximately eight miles away, Francis Scott Key experienced relief at the sight of the American flag flying over the fort as the smoke from the fierce battle dissipated in the light of the early dawn and was inspired to express his sentiments in poetry; and

WHEREAS, originally titled, "The Defence of Fort McHenry," the poem was set to music and became known as "The Star Spangled Banner;" and

WHEREAS, in 1916, President Woodrow Wilson called for the song to be played at all official events and, on March 3, 1931, "The Star Spangled Banner" was adopted as our country's national anthem.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 14, 2014, as

STAR SPANGLED BANNER 200TH ANNIVERSARY DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to reflect on the history surrounding the origin of our national anthem and the creation of our great nation.



NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA