

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** heatstroke is a leading cause of non-crash vehicle-related deaths in children; and

**WHEREAS,** in 2014 and 2015, there were over 50 deaths nationwide of children in vehicles from heatstroke, with 4 of those deaths occurring in South Carolina; and

**WHEREAS,** of the more than 650 children in the United States who died as a result of vehicular heatstroke between 1998 and 2015, approximately 54 percent were forgotten in the vehicle by their caregiver, 29 percent were playing in the vehicle unattended, and 17 percent were intentionally left in the vehicle by an adult; and

**WHEREAS,** even with the windows cracked, the temperature inside a car can rise 20 degrees in 10 minutes, quickly causing extreme danger to young children whose bodies heat up 3 to 5 times faster than an adult's; and

**WHEREAS,** anyone who sees an unattended child in a vehicle should call 911 for emergency assistance.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 27 - July 3, 2016, as

### CHILD VEHICULAR HEATSTROKE PREVENTION WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to help reduce tragic loss of life by taking whatever steps are necessary to avoid leaving a child or allowing a child to play unattended in a vehicle.



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