

*State of South Carolina*  
*Proclamation*  
*by*  
*Governor Jim Hodges*

**WHEREAS,** the rose has been cultivated in gardens for more than 5,000 years; and

**WHEREAS,** as a symbol of love, friendship, beauty, and peace, the rose has long been a source of inspiration to humankind; and

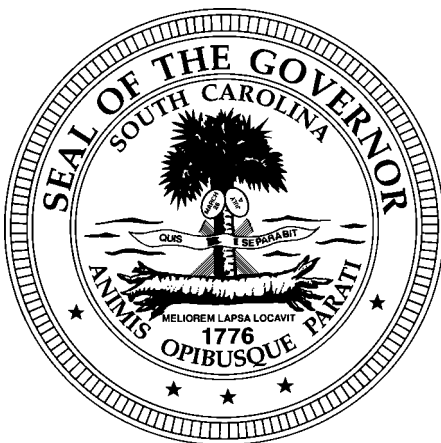
**WHEREAS,** designated by President Ronald Reagan in 1986 as "America's National Floral Emblem", the rose is grown today in every state of our nation; and

**WHEREAS,** the 2002 celebration of the "Year of the Rose" provides a unique opportunity for citizens throughout South Carolina and the nation to promote appreciation for this flower that has been a favorite of the American people and has been revered and renowned in art, music, and literature for centuries.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Jim Hodges, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim 2002 as the

**YEAR OF THE ROSE**

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the beauty of this unique flower.



*Jim Hodges*

**Jim Hodges**  
**Governor**  
**State of South Carolina**