

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, vitiligo is a noncontagious autoimmune disorder characterized by white patches of skin, with a loss of pigment cells from the involved areas; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that over 50 million people worldwide are affected by vitiligo; and

WHEREAS, though its causes are unknown, several diseases have been associated with vitiligo including Addison's disease, pernicious anemia, hyperthyroidism, and lupus; and

WHEREAS, vitiligo can cause emotional suffering as well as health complications including the vulnerability of discolored skin to certain forms of skin cancer; and

WHEREAS, increasing public awareness and understanding of this disorder can help promote research to develop better therapies and preventative measures for the individuals it affects.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 2013 as

VITILIGO AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to support further research into the causes of and a cure for this disorder.



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

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA