

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** performing as well-trained teams in defense of Americans and their allies in times of combat as well as peace, military working dogs and their handlers have served in our armed forces since World War II; and

**WHEREAS,** military working dogs and their handlers undergo extensive basic and specialized training to prepare for their assignments, which have included sentry, scout, messenger, tracker, and mine and tunnel duty, and to help reduce the casualty rate during combat, with an estimated 10,000 American soldiers' lives saved during Vietnam alone; and

**WHEREAS,** the natural instincts and keen senses of hearing and smell inherent to the working dogs enable them to serve as an extension of their handlers, deterring attacks, enhancing the safety of our men and women in uniform, and faithfully serving as valuable members of our military; and

**WHEREAS,** military working dog teams remain an active part of our country's armed forces, helping protect our troops overseas and our bases at home.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 13, 2014, as**

### **K9 VETERANS DAY**

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize our K9 veterans and military working dogs for their valuable contributions to saving lives during armed conflict and peacetime in the defense of our country.



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

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