

State of South Carolina

Proclamation

by
Governor Jim Hodges

WHEREAS, one traffic fatality is reported on South Carolina's highways approximately every nine hours, with 1,060 traffic fatalities reported in the Palmetto State during 2001; and

WHEREAS, over 1,000 traffic fatalities have been reported for each of the past four years on our state's roads; and

WHEREAS, the mileage death rate on South Carolina highways continues to exceed the national average by 53%, with an estimated 2.3 people killed for every 100 million miles of travel; and

WHEREAS, the leading causes of fatal crashes in South Carolina continue to be preventable, such as exceeding the posted speed limit, driving under the influence of alcohol, failing to yield the right of way, running off the road, and similar preventable factors; and

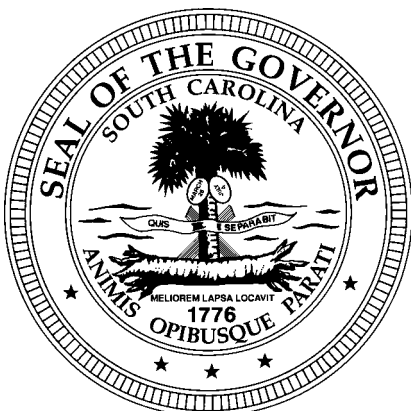
WHEREAS, the economic cost of traffic fatalities in the Palmetto State exceeded \$1.06 billion in 2001, not to mention the intangible costs of grief and suffering borne by the families involved; and

WHEREAS, safe driving behaviors, coupled with roadway safety improvements, can greatly reduce the number and severity of traffic crashes on South Carolina's roads and highways.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Hodges, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 10, 2002, as

PUT THE BRAKES ON FATALITIES DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to help save lives by spreading the important message of safe driving in our communities, while setting an example for others by driving safely, courteously, and defensively.



Jim Hodges
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Governor
State of South Carolina