

WHEREAS, cancer is the leading cause of death by disease of children and adolescents in the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that each year in the Palmetto State, there are 150 - 200 new cases of pediatric cancer, a number that has increased 1% every year for the past 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month recognizes the courage and compassion of those children and their families throughout South Carolina and the nation who have battled or are currently battling cancer; and

WHEREAS, by working together to raise awareness of the devastating effects of childhood cancer, we can make a positive difference for families, patients, and survivors in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 2009 as

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to wear a gold ribbon as a symbol of our common commitment to advancing research into childhood cancer and in honor of children who have survived as well as those who have lost their battle against cancer.