

**WHEREAS,** pain is a serious health problem that affects millions of Americans chronically and touches everyone at some time or another in their lives; and

**WHEREAS,** pain takes an economic toll on our country, costing billions of dollars each year in medical expenses, lost wages, reduced productivity, and other costs; and

**WHEREAS,** improved pain management education and an effective multidisciplinary treatment approach can help reduce suffering and remove barriers to pain-free living.

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

## **PAIN AWARENESS MONTH**

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to learn more about pain and help provide an improved quality of life for those who suffer with it.