

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** a cataract is a cloudy area on the lens of the eye that can cause changes in vision; and

**WHEREAS,** cataracts are one of the most common causes of vision loss, especially as people age, and it is estimated that more than 350,000 people age 40 and over in South Carolina are living with cataracts; and

**WHEREAS,** symptoms of cataracts include blurry vision as well as sensitivity to light and glare; and

**WHEREAS,** while most cataracts are caused by aging, they can also be caused by past eye infections, injuries, or surgery, a family history of cataracts, tobacco use, too much ultraviolet light, diabetes, and obesity;

**WHEREAS,** having regular eye exams, not smoking, wearing sunglasses, eating a healthy diet, and taking care of other health problems may reduce the risk of developing cataracts; and

**WHEREAS,** though most cataracts form as part of the normal aging process and cannot be reversed, they may be treated with cataract surgery; and

**WHEREAS,** Cataract Awareness Month seeks to increase public knowledge of cataracts, its causes, risk factors, and treatment options.

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

### CATARACT AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to learn more about cataracts and the importance of quality eye care to the health and well-being of the people of the Palmetto State.



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

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