

State of South Carolina
Proclamation
by
Governor Jim Hodges

WHEREAS, each year, an estimated 3.5 million children ages 14 and under suffer from sports and recreation related injuries that can lead to disability and death; and

WHEREAS, on average, 1 child dies from an unintentional injury in the Palmetto State every 78 hours, making South Carolina's childhood injury death rate 40 percent higher than the national average; and

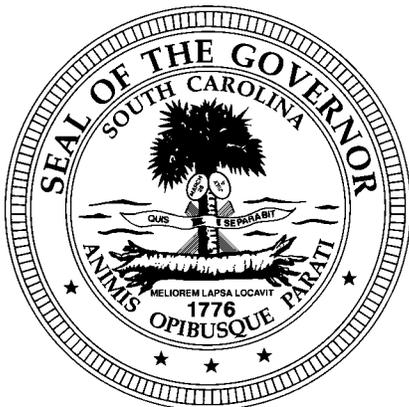
WHEREAS, the South Carolina SAFE KIDS Coalition, led by the South Carolina Hospital Association, unites public, private, and voluntary organizations to reduce preventable childhood injuries in South Carolina through community awareness, education, and public policy; and

WHEREAS, the 2003 observance of National SAFE KIDS Week provides a unique opportunity for the citizens of the Palmetto State to join together to promote safety in our homes, schools, and communities to help prevent childhood injury.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Hodges, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 3 - 10, 2003, as

SAFE KIDS WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to ensure the continued safety of the young people of the Palmetto State.



Jim Hodges

Jim Hodges
Governor
State of South Carolina