

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, lupus is an autoimmune disease that can cause damage to any part of the body when the immune system loses the ability to differentiate between viruses, bacteria, or germs and the body's healthy tissue and organs; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that as many as 1.5 million Americans and 5 million people worldwide suffer from a form of lupus; and

WHEREAS, while lupus is most often diagnosed in women between the ages of 15 and 40, the disease affects men and women of all ages; and

WHEREAS, because the most common symptoms of lupus can mimic numerous other diseases, a correct diagnosis and effective treatment protocols are often delayed; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness of lupus, along with advances in biomedical and pharmaceutical research, offer the potential for additional treatment options.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 2016 as

### LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to raise awareness of the need for continued research into the causes of and a cure for this chronic disease and to offer support to the individuals and families it affects.



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

NIKKI R. HALEY  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA