

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** since the earliest days of our country, brave men and women have taken up arms at the risk of their lives in defense of our nation and the principles upon which it was founded; and

**WHEREAS,** the practice of displaying service flags, banners with one blue star for each family member in service during hostilities or war, originated during World War I, and 1918 marked the beginning of the tradition of placing a gold star over the blue to signify the loss of life; and

**WHEREAS,** dedicated to preserving the memories of their sons and daughters who lost their lives in times of conflict, the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. was established in 1928; and

**WHEREAS,** by assisting veterans and gold star families, fostering patriotism and community service, and promoting peace and good will throughout the world, Gold Star Mothers inspire us with their deep devotion to family and country.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 24, 2016, as

### GOLD STAR MOTHERS AND FAMILIES DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to honor the sacrifice of mothers and families whose sons, daughters, mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, and other loved ones have lost their lives protecting our country, defending our freedom, and fighting to secure peace around the world.



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

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