

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, lupus is an autoimmune disease that can cause severe damage to the tissue and organs in the body and, in some cases, death; and

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

WHEREAS, more than 16,000 new cases of this disease are reported across the country each year; and

WHEREAS, while lupus strikes mostly women of childbearing age, men, children, and teenagers also develop this disease; and

WHEREAS, the most common symptoms of lupus, including extreme fatigue, headaches, painful or swollen joints, anemia, and hair loss, can mimic numerous other diseases, and a lack of awareness of the symptoms and health effects of lupus lead many people to suffer several years before obtaining a correct diagnosis and medical treatment.

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

LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH

and May 10, 2013, as

LUPUS AWARENESS DAY

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, debilitating 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