

WHEREAS, ovarian cancer is the fifth leading cause of cancer death in women and the deadliest of all gynecological cancers; and

WHEREAS, in cases where ovarian cancer is found and treated in its earliest stages, the 5-year survival rate increases dramatically, with early detection and treatment often meaning the difference between life and death; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, most women who suffer from this cancer are not diagnosed until it has become more advanced because currently there is no reliable screening test and symptoms may be easily confused with other diseases; and

WHEREAS, Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month provides an opportunity to learn more about the causes and warning signs of this deadly disease so that we can detect it early and treat it effectively, improving the survival rate and quality of life for those women it affects.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 2009 as

OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to promote continued research into the causes of and a cure for ovarian cancer.