

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, Judge William R. Byars, Jr. was appointed as Director of the South Carolina Department of Corrections in January 2011; and

WHEREAS, prior to this position, Judge Byars served as Director of the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice, Director of the Children's Law Office at the University of South Carolina School of Law, and Family Court Judge for the Fifth Judicial Circuit; and

WHEREAS, Judge Byars has led efforts to reform our state's prison system, achieving a 30% reduction in juvenile crime, 60% reduction in long-term secure population, and 38% reduction in recidivism during his tenure at DJJ as well as a reduction in SCDC's inmate population and a drop in recidivism to a 20-year low of 27.5% over the last three years as Director of Corrections; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his leadership and service on behalf of South Carolina's children, Judge Byars has received numerous state and national honors and awards; and

WHEREAS, Judge Byars is a true public servant committed to improving the lives of people in our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2013, as

JUDGE WILLIAM R. BYARS, JR. DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to join together in honoring Judge Byars for his outstanding contributions to the Palmetto State.



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

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA