State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, the NASA Teacher in Space Project (TISP) was designed to inspire students' interest in mathematics, science, and space exploration; and

WHEREAS, the Challenger Center for Space Science Education was established as a living memorial to honor the crew of the first TISP flight, the space shuttle Challenger 51-L mission: Commander Francis Scobee; Pilot Michael Smith; Mission Specialists Judith Resnik, Ellison Onizuka, and Ronald McNair, a South Carolina native; and Payload Specialists Gregory Jarvis and Christa McAuliffe, the first TISP astronaut; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the value of teaching science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in an engaging simulated learning environment, the Richland County School District One Board of School Commissioners dedicated the first Challenger Learning Center in our state on February 11, 1996; and

WHEREAS, since its opening, over 110,000 visitors have experienced the excitement and educational opportunities the Center offers, including Richland School District One graduate and NASA Administrator, Major General Charles Bolden, Jr., USMA (Ret), who launched model rockets with students during the NASA Summer of Innovation 2012 East Coast Kickoff; and

WHEREAS, by developing a broad network of partnerships and collaborations and hosting an annual Aerospace Career Day for high school students, the Challenger Learning Center of Richland County School District One promotes the development of the K-12 aerospace workforce pipeline.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 11, 2016, as

THE CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER OF RICHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE 20TH ANNIVERSARY DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the Center and celebrate its contributions as a significant aerospace education program.

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA