

*State of South Carolina*  
*Proclamation*  
*by*  
*Governor Jim Hodges*

**WHEREAS,** originally sung by church quartets and traveling family groups, Southern Gospel music emerged during the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; and

**WHEREAS,** Southern Gospel music has grown in popularity over the past decade, expanding globally to diverse listening audiences as well as to all age groups; and

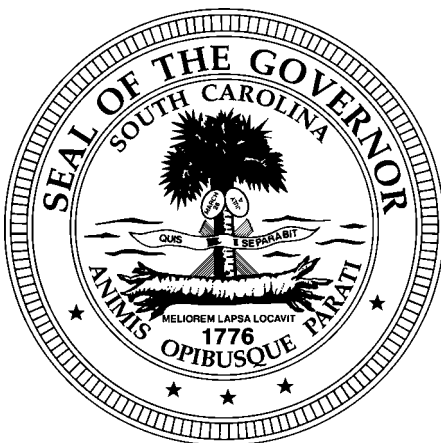
**WHEREAS,** Southern Gospel music encompasses styles ranging from traditional four-part male quartet harmonies with simple piano accompaniment to modern country renditions; and

**WHEREAS,** the preservation of Southern Gospel music fosters greater understanding and awareness of the rich and diverse cultural heritage of the Palmetto State.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Jim Hodges, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September, 2001, as

**SOUTHERN GOSPEL MUSIC MONTH**

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to celebrate this musical genre, its history, the artists, and the positive message it carries.



*Jim Hodges*

**Jim Hodges**  
**Governor**  
**State of South Carolina**