

# *State of South Carolina*

## *Proclamation*

*by*  
*Governor Jim Hodges*

**WHEREAS,** in 1923, a tragic fire at Cleveland School in Camden, South Carolina, took the lives of 77 people, the most deadly fire recorded in the history of the Palmetto State; and

**WHEREAS,** in 1924, a year after the fire, the State of South Carolina passed the School Building Code, which established the requirement of fire exits for two-story school buildings; and

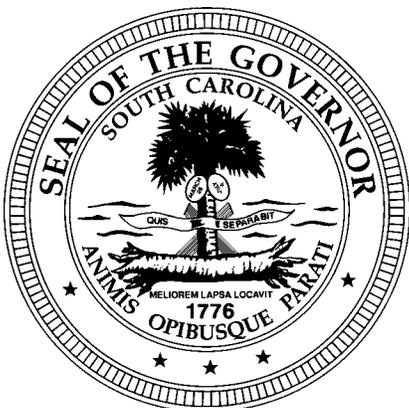
**WHEREAS,** on October 6, 2002, the Cleveland School Memorial Foundation, in conjunction with the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation Division of Fire and Life Safety, will dedicate its refurbished monument site in recognition of the significant impact the Cleveland School Fire has had on our families, our communities and our state, while honoring the memory of those who lost their lives in this tragic fire; and

**WHEREAS,** the Cleveland School Memorial dedication service appropriately marks the beginning of the 2002 observance of "Fire Prevention Week", officially kicking off national and statewide fire education and prevention efforts.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Jim Hodges, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 6, 2002, as

## **CLEVELAND SCHOOL MEMORIAL DAY**

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the significant impact the Cleveland School Fire has had on fire safety in the Palmetto State.



*Jim Hodges*

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