

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, a literate and informed citizenry is essential to the strength and success of our nation; and

WHEREAS, according to data collected in the most recent United States Census, 21 percent of adult South Carolinians are illiterate; and

WHEREAS, the stigma of being unable to complete a job application, write a check, pass a written driving test, or read to a child or grandchild can lead to a marginalized existence; and

WHEREAS, directly impacting the ways by which an individual works, parents, and contributes to society, adult illiteracy can lead to lower levels of physical health, lack of civic integration, and increased levels of incarceration; and

WHEREAS, literacy empowers parents in their role as their children's first teacher and helps them prepare their children to be ready to learn upon entering school and to succeed once in school; and

WHEREAS, boosting literacy for all South Carolinians helps strengthen our communities and ensure our continued ability to compete in the global marketplace while enhancing the quality of life of all our residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 2012 as

SOUTH CAROLINA LITERACY MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to increase literacy among the residents of the Palmetto State.



Handwritten signature of Nikki R. Haley in black ink.

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA