

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, the use of alcohol is the number one cause of harm to unborn babies in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, an irreversible, lifelong condition found among babies whose mothers consumed too much alcohol during pregnancy, is the leading known cause of mental retardation; and

WHEREAS, approximately one in every 300 babies in the Palmetto State is born with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, and one in every 50 has a wider range of alcohol-related birth defects; and

WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is the only type of mental retardation that is completely preventable and requires a multi-level approach, including community education programs and interventions, to protect the health of our unborn babies.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 9, 2009, as

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS AWARENESS DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to help ensure the brightest possible future for the children of the Palmetto State.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA