

WHEREAS, making healthy lifestyle choices can help reduce the incidence of many chronic diseases and untimely deaths impacting individuals and families across the Palmetto State; and

WHEREAS, health education is any combination of learning experiences designed to promote informed choices that contribute positively to the health of individuals, groups, organizations, and communities; and

WHEREAS, health education specialists utilize multiple intervention strategies to initiate educational, policy, and environmental changes that are necessary to support healthy behaviors; and

WHEREAS, health education specialists are employed in a variety of roles in public and private settings and are focused on prevention and improving the quality of life for all people.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 19 - 23, 2009, as

HEALTH EDUCATION WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the important contributions health education specialists make in promoting health and preventing disease, disability, and premature death in our communities.