

WHEREAS, despite advances in medical technology and research, the life expectancy of men is approximately six years lower than that of women; and

WHEREAS, educating the public and health care providers about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and early detection of male health problems helps prevent disease; and

WHEREAS, men who are knowledgeable about the value of preventative health are more likely to participate in health screenings, thus promoting early detection and treatment; and

WHEREAS, the 2009 observance of Men's Health Week calls attention to a broad range of men's health issues, including heart disease, diabetes, and prostate, testicular, and colon cancer, in an effort to educate men and their families about the importance of a healthy lifestyle, regular exercise, and routine medical check-ups.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 15 - 21, 2009, as

MEN'S HEALTH WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to promote positive health attitudes and preventative health practices.