

State of South Carolina
Proclamation
by
Governor Jim Hodges

WHEREAS, on February 1, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln signed the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution, abolishing slavery throughout the entire Union; and

WHEREAS, a former slave and active post-reconstruction pioneer in civil rights, Major Richard Robert Wright, Sr., working with national and local leaders across the country, petitioned President Harry Truman to designate February 1 as "National Freedom Day" throughout the nation to commemorate this significant milestone in the quest for human freedom for all citizens; and

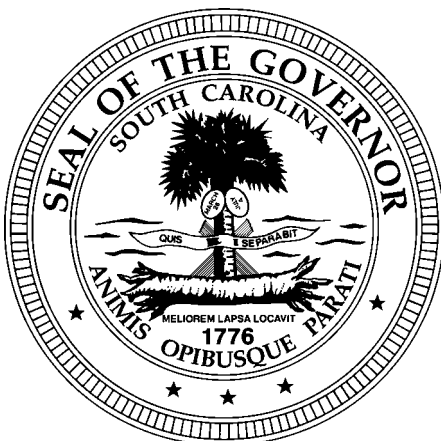
WHEREAS, the annual observance of "National Freedom Day" promotes goodwill, harmony, and equal opportunity among all citizens, while reaffirming our nation's dedication to the ideals of freedom and dignity; and

WHEREAS, the 2002 observance of "National Freedom Day" provides a unique time for citizens throughout South Carolina and the nation to honor those brave men and women who worked to ensure universal freedom for our citizens, while striving to overcome intolerance and inhumanity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Hodges, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 1, 2002, as

FREEDOM DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to reaffirm their steadfast commitment to upholding the ideals of peace, humanity, interdependence, and respect.



Jim Hodges

Jim Hodges
Governor
State of South Carolina