

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, in 1916, the first "Aiken Horse Show in the Woods" was organized as a venue for competition for horse enthusiasts as well as a fundraising opportunity for the Aiken Hospital and Relief Society; and

WHEREAS, due to the overwhelming success of the inaugural event, the Aiken Horse Show has developed into an annual sporting competition and social event that has grown in participation and expanded to cover three days; and

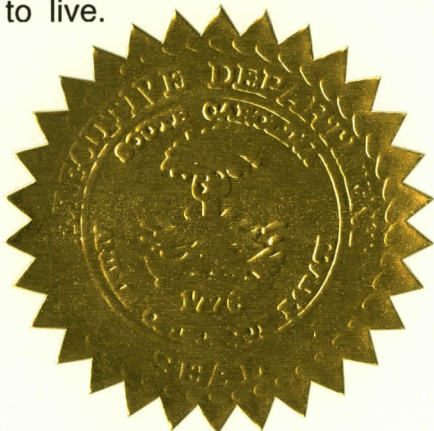
WHEREAS, as one of the nation's largest privately-owned urban forests, Hitchcock Woods, the site of the Aiken Horse Show, is under the careful management and stewardship of the Hitchcock Woods Foundation and its mission to preserve the Woods, promote traditional equestrian and pedestrian use, and advance education and research in the Woods' history and resources; and

WHEREAS, working together and with the generous support of volunteers and sponsors, the Aiken Horse Show and the Hitchcock Woods Foundation have a shared history of attracting visitors to the community to experience the unique partnership of excellence in forestry conservation and horsemanship at its best.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 1 - 3, 2016, as

AIKEN HORSE SHOW 100TH ANNIVERSARY DAYS

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to celebrate the Aiken Horse Show and Hitchcock Woods Foundation for their contributions to preserving the traditions and natural beauty that make the Palmetto State such a great place to live.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

**NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**