

WHEREAS, pulmonary hypertension (PH) is a rare disorder causing intolerable blood pressure levels in the arteries between the lungs and the heart; and

WHEREAS, with symptoms ranging from shortness of breath and fatigue to chest pains, dizzy spells and fainting, PH is often misdiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, although there is no cure for pulmonary hypertension, early diagnosis contributes to better management of the disease and an improved quality of life for those affected; and

WHEREAS, Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month calls attention to the need for increased education and research as a means to help achieve early detection and diagnosis, effective treatment methods and a possible cure for this disorder.

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

PULMONARY HYPERTENSION AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to raise awareness of this debilitating disease.