

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, sexual assault affects thousands of South Carolinians each year, not only as victim survivors but also as family members, loved ones, or friends of a victim; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault is one of the most devastating crimes in our society today, with victims often suffering lifelong pain from physical injury and serious emotional trauma; and

WHEREAS, volunteers and service providers in our communities are dedicated to providing care to sexual assault survivors through 24-hour hotlines, counseling, support groups, advocacy, medical care, and education; and

WHEREAS, with the theme, *Engaging New Voices*, the 2017 observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the need for new partners and community members to broaden prevention efforts and promote healthy relationships and respect.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2017 as

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to prevent sexual assault and ensure a life free from harm for the residents of the Palmetto State.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry McMaster".

HENRY MCMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA