

**WHEREAS,** South Carolina's children's museums positively impact our state's tourism, adding an important element to the state's tourist attraction offerings for families with young children; and

**WHEREAS,** children's museums represent the people of our state and provide a safe, clean, welcoming, and stimulating place for all children and their families, school groups, and community members to explore and experience joy; and

**WHEREAS,** children's museums spark our state's youngest citizen's imagination and creativity that help ignite curiosity and wonder using hands-on engagement and play as a springboard for learning; and

**WHEREAS,** children's museums contain a variety of interactive exhibits that allow children to observe, investigate, and discover different subjects, ideas, and perspectives; and

**WHEREAS,** children's museums provide early learners interactive and multisensory opportunities that enhance literacy, science inquiry, and social-emotional well-being, building on the developmentally appropriate, concrete, active way children learn best; and

**WHEREAS,** children's museums encourage their guests to develop their critical and creative thinking skills, inspire career exploration and workforce readiness that are integral to their future success; and

**WHEREAS,** children's museums serve as conveners of educational leaders and organizations that are dedicated to long-lasting impact on the lives of children, their families, and the schools and communities that serve them.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 6-11, 2026, as**