

State of South Carolina Proclamation

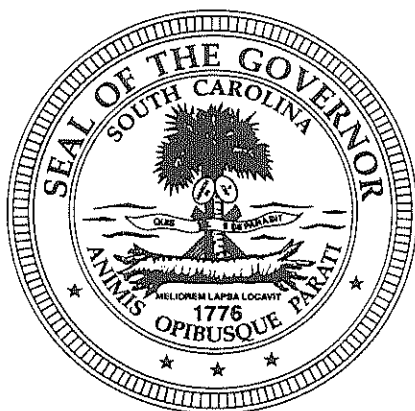
by
Governor Jim Hodges

- WHEREAS,** several pharmaceutical manufacturers have established initiatives designed to help low income Medicare beneficiaries in South Carolina receive needed health care services; and
- WHEREAS,** in October 2001, GlaxoSmithKline announced its "Orange Card", an innovative program offering notable savings on its outpatient prescription medications to low-income seniors and the disabled; and
- WHEREAS,** more recently, Abbott, Aventis, Astra Zeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Eli Lilly, Johnson and Johnson, Novartis, and Pfizer also announced unique programs of their own that provide pharmaceutical products to needy seniors at a nominal cost; and
- WHEREAS,** coupled with patient assistance programs, these initiatives provide a significant safety net for some of our most vulnerable citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** these initiatives by Abbott, Aventis, Astra Zeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Eli Lilly, GlaxoSmithKline, Johnson and Johnson, Novartis, and Pfizer will further enhance our state efforts to provide pharmaceutical assistance through our state-funded SilverCard prescription drug program, serving as a testament to the positive benefits of public-private partnerships in helping those in need; and
- WHEREAS,** by recognizing the particular needs of low-income seniors, these programs provide access to more affordable prescription drugs for thousands of seniors in South Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Hodges, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby commend

**ABBOTT, AVENTIS, ASTRA ZENECA, BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB, ELI LILLY,
GLAXOSMITHKLINE, JOHNSON AND JOHNSON, NOVARTIS, AND PFIZER**

for their pioneering efforts to make prescription drugs more accessible for the elderly citizens of the Palmetto State and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to promote continued cooperative efforts of state government and local and national companies in securing our common goal of enhancing health care options and opportunities for all our citizens.



Jim Hodges
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Governor
State of South Carolina