

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, thousands of South Carolinians lack access to civil legal assistance that is critical to their safety and independence, forcing them to resolve, on their own, complex legal issues, including domestic violence, divorce, child custody, evictions, mortgage foreclosure, and the physical and financial abuse of the elderly; and

WHEREAS, in the wake of natural disasters such as Hurricanes Matthew, Florence, and Michael, survivors often lack access to legal assistance in addressing issues unique to disasters, including insurance disputes, FEMA appeals, landlord tenant disputes, consumer fraud, and health and education issues; and

WHEREAS, those involved in the legal vocation have the ability, through pro bono work, to contribute expert knowledge and special skills to these indigent and otherwise vulnerable populations of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, members of the South Carolina Bar, their paralegals, and staff have donated substantial hours in free legal services and make generous financial contributions to legal services organizations and the South Carolina Bar Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Celebrate Pro Bono Week provides an opportunity to recognize our state's pro bono volunteers, identify the differences South Carolina attorneys have made within their communities for the indigent and needy, and to raise public awareness by building support for pro bono activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 21 -27, 2018, as

CELEBRATE PRO BONO WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to join together to support our legal community and its efforts to ensure a just democratic society for the people of the Palmetto State.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Henry McMaster".

HENRY MCMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA