

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, a projected 1,189 South Carolinians lost their lives due to motor vehicle crashes in 2021, including 159 motorcyclists, 21 bicyclists, and 195 pedestrians, making 2021 the deadliest year on our roadways in the past five-years; and

WHEREAS, talking on a mobile phone, even in hands-free mode, texting, programming the dashboard infotainment system or GPS device can divert one's attention away from driving and result in physical, manual, and cognitive distraction; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina continues to have the highest number of fatalities in the United States per miles driven, and all South Carolinians deserve to live and work in safe communities; and

WHEREAS, the National Safety Council Southeastern Chapter, South Carolina Trucking Association, Palmetto Cycling Coalition, and ABATE of South Carolina work to promote policies, practices, and procedures leading to increased safety, protection, and health in business and industry, in schools and colleges, on roads and highways, and in homes and communities throughout the Palmetto State; and

WHEREAS, spring is a time when people begin to log more miles on the road, and it is imperative to focus attention on motor vehicle safety to prevent injuries, death, and loss in our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as

DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to practice safe driving behaviors and pledge to drive distraction-free.



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

**HENRY McMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**