

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS, the white cane, which every blind citizen of South Carolina has the right to carry, demonstrates and symbolizes the ability to achieve a full and independent life and the capacity to work productively in competitive employment; and
- WHEREAS, by allowing every blind person to move freely and safely from place to place, the white cane makes it possible for the blind to fully participate in and contribute to our society and to live the lives they want; and
- WHEREAS, every citizen should be aware that the law requires that motorists and cyclists exercise appropriate caution when approaching a blind person carrying a white cane; and
- WHEREAS, South Carolina state law also calls upon employers, both public and private, to be aware of and utilize the employment skills of our blind citizens by recognizing their worth as individuals and their productive capacities; and
- WHEREAS, the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina has promoted forty-four bills signed into law by this and past Governors since 1958 which benefit the blind of the Palmetto State by offering voting rights, educational best media (large print or braille) assessments, the right of the blind to parent act, and other valued services as determined by blind South Carolinians, enhancing the purpose of the White Cane Law; and
- WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina, through its public agencies and with the cooperative assistance of the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina, can and should facilitate the expansion of employment opportunities for and greater acceptance of blind persons in the competitive labor market as it has done with S.533 signed into law, defeating subminimum wages for the blind and disabled workers in this state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2022, as

### WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY

throughout the state and encourage our schools, colleges, and universities to offer full opportunities for training to blind persons, employers and the public to utilize the available skills of competent blind persons and to open new opportunities for the blind in our rapidly changing society and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the white cane as a tool of independence for blind pedestrians on our streets and highways.



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

**HENRY McMASTER**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**