A PROCLAMATION
(Bill of Rights Day)

WHEREAS, the Bill of Rights guarantees the fundamental liberties of Americans, and

WHEREAS, those liberties have made America great, and

WHEREAS, of all the people of the world, those liberties are almost solely enjoyed by Americans, and

WHEREAS, the Bill of Rights stands forth as an inspiration to the oppressed peoples of the world, and

WHEREAS, honor is due the author of the Bill of Rights -- George Mason of Gunston Hall -- for conceiving this document, which has become a landmark in man's long fight for freedom.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. Strom Thurmond, Governor of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim Monday, December 15, 1947, as Bill of Rights Day, and urge all of our citizens to observe this day with appropriate thought and prayer for the preservation of the American way of life and government.

Given under my hand and seal this 15th day of December in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and forty-seven.

J. Strom Thurmond, Governor.