WHEREAS, September 17 has been set aside by the Congress of the United States for the celebration of the adoption of the United States Constitution, and

WHEREAS, never before in the 173 years of its existence has the Constitution been in greater danger of violation from forces within the Government through the attempted abrogation of the rights of the States, and

WHEREAS, such dangers can be met and overcome only through a greater understanding of the meaning and importance of the Constitution on the part of the people, and

WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina has remained an immovable citadel of Constitutional guarantees since the day when four of her citizens, J. Rutledge, Charles Pinckney, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, and Pierce Butler, signed the original document, now

THEREFORE, I, J. Strom Thurmond, Governor of South Carolina, do proclaim Friday, September 17, 1948, as Constitution Day in South Carolina, and I call upon all our citizens to observe this day by studying the Constitution for a better understanding of its meaning in our daily lives, so that we shall never lose the priceless heritage it guarantees us.

Given under my hand and seal this 28th day of August in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and forty-eight.

J. Strom Thurmond, Governor