WHEREAS, the future of the United States depends upon the 
education and health and welfare of its children, and
WHEREAS, it seems appropriate to set apart one day each year to 
call attention to the basic educational, health, 
recreational and welfare needs of children and to 
discuss better ways of meeting them, and
WHEREAS, the Children's Day National Council has pointed out that 
there are many pressing needs of children which are being 
sorely neglected; that among these is the need for 
thousands of new schools because many schools are shame-
fully outmoded and over-crowded; the need for dental 
care which 75% of American school children lack; the 
need for better eye care as evinced by the fact that 
10 million children now have defective vision; the need 
to combat tuberculosis which now afflicts 175,000 of our 
children; the need to combat our mounting rate of juvenile 
delinquency, and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. Strom Thurmond, Governor of the State of South 
Carolina, do hereby proclaim that Sunday, October 16, 1949, 
be observed as CHILDREN'S DAY and I urge all adults and 
all churches, social welfare, civic and community 
organizations on that day, or during the week proceeding 
it, to consider the educational, health, recreational and 
welfare needs of the children of their neighborhood and 
community, and of the State and the Nation, and to discuss 
better ways of meeting these needs.

Given under my hand and seal this 
26th day of September, in the Year 
of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and 
Forty-Nine.

J. Strom Thurmond, Governor