I have just been going over the latest vaccine reports from the Foundation and the Surgeon General's Office. These reports show that more than 55 per cent of all persons in South Carolina under 20 years of age have started the series of three vaccinations.

While I am happy that so many of my fellow citizens have taken the opportunity to protect themselves from paralytic polio, many others have not yet done so. From the reports we have studied it appears that the largest numbers of those who still remain unprotected are in the pre-school -- one to six years old -- and older teen-age groups. These and other young people under 20 are most susceptible to polio and constitute about three quarters of all polio victims today.

Let me urge all parents not to delay having their pre-school and teen-age children vaccinated now that the vaccine is returning to normal supply. And parents should also remember that they and all of their friends -- particularly those up to age 40 -- should protect themselves as well before the onset of the summer polio season.

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