



## **Columbia Metropolitan Convention & Visitors Bureau**

### ***A Proclamation***

**Whereas** tourism brings in 3 million visitors to the Columbia region every year;

**Whereas** tourism generates \$1 billion in direct spending in the Columbia region every year;

**Whereas** tourism directly employs more than 65,000 people in the Columbia region;

**Whereas** tourism saves every household in South Carolina \$691 in taxes annually;

**Whereas** tourism is the largest industry in South Carolina according to many economists;

**Whereas** tourism supports the jobs of nearly 1 in 10 South Carolinians;

**Whereas** National Tourism Week is an annual event sponsored by the Travel Industry Association, aimed at promoting the power of travel;

**Whereas** the goal of National Tourism Week is to enhance the country's economy and inform the public of the cultural and social benefits of travel and tourism;

Now, therefore, we do hereby proclaim May 7-15, 2011 as

### **National Tourism Week**

in Columbia, SC and urge our fellow citizens to recognize and participate in this special observance.