

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, albinism refers to a group of inherited genetic conditions that affect the body's ability to produce melanin, or pigment. The two primary types of albinism are oculocutaneous albinism (OCA), which affects the eyes, hair, and skin, and ocular albinism (OA), which primarily affects the eyes; and

WHEREAS, albinism occurs in all racial and ethnic groups around the world. In the United States, approximately one in 18,000 to 20,000 people have some form of albinism. Most children with albinism are born to parents who have typical hair and eye color for their ethnic backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, people with albinism have vision impairments that are not fully correctable with eyeglasses, and many live with low vision. These impairments result from abnormal development of the retina and atypical patterns of nerve connections between the eye and brain. The presence of these visual differences is a defining characteristic of albinism; and

WHEREAS, individuals with albinism typically have fair complexions and are at increased risk for sun-related damage to both the skin and eyes, including life-threatening skin cancers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry Dargan McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 13, 2025., as

INTERNATIONAL ALBINISM AWARENESS DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to promote greater awareness and acceptance of people with albinism.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Henry D. McMaster", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

HENRY DARGAN McMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA