Executive Order No. 2019-02

WHEREAS, I have been notified of the passing of T. Moffatt Burriss, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, T. Moffatt Burriss, Sr. dutifully served the State of South Carolina as an educator, a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, and a member of various boards and commissions, including the South Carolina Lottery Commission; and

WHEREAS, prior to his distinguished and patriotic public service, T. Moffatt Burriss, Sr. served honorably and heroically in the United States Army, including extensive combat duty in World War II; and

WHEREAS, having volunteered for paratrooper training school after his graduation from Clemson College and the attack on Pearl Harbor, T. Moffatt Burriss, Sr. served as a company commander in the United States Army's 82nd Airborne Division and was involved in most major battles in the European Theater during World War II, including Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands, where his company was the lead company in the famous Waal River Crossing and the capture of the Nijmegen Bridge; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his extraordinary bravery and courageous military service during World War II, T. Moffatt Burriss, Sr. received numerous decorations and awards, including the Silver Star, three Bronze Stars, the Combat "V" for valor, the Purple Heart, three Presidential Unit Citations, the French Fourragere, the Belgium Fourragere, and the Dutch Lanyard; and

WHEREAS, T. Moffatt Burriss, Sr. was a remarkable individual, devoted father and family man, decorated World War II veteran, dedicated public servant, accomplished businessman, and principled leader who will forever serve as an inspiration to all South Carolinians, and his passing warrants the people of this State further recognizing and appropriately honoring his extraordinary legacy and lifetime of distinguished and patriotic service to the State of South Carolina and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, section 10-1-161(E) of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, authorizes the Governor to order that the flags atop the State Capitol Building be lowered to half-staff at a designated time or for a designated period of time upon the death of a person of extraordinary stature.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of South Carolina and pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of this State and of these United States and the powers conferred upon me therein, I hereby Order that the flags atop the State Capitol Building be lowered to half-staff from sunrise until sunset on Sunday, January 13, 2019, in honor of T. Moffatt Burriss, Sr. and in recognition of his extraordinary legacy and lifetime of distinguished and patriotic service to the State of South Carolina and the United States of America. This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 11th DAY OF JANUARY, 2019.

HENRY MCMASTER Governor