

No. R-285. House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2024 as National Foster Care Month in Vermont.

(H.C.R.219)

Offered by: Representatives Donahue of Northfield, Goslant of Northfield, Brumsted of Shelburne, Garofano of Essex, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hyman of South Burlington, McGill of Bridport, Noyes of Wolcott, Pajala of Londonderry, Small of Winooski, Whitman of Bennington, and Wood of Waterbury

Whereas, all children deserve a safe, loving, and nurturing home, and

Whereas, families serve as the primary support structure for personal identity and community connections, and

Whereas, foster care nurtures family relationships, foster care providers help children and youth develop, and this service is of great societal importance, and

Whereas, more than 390,000 children and young people throughout the nation are living with a foster care family, and

Whereas, many foster care families create permanency for children and youth through adoption when they cannot safely return to live with their birth families, and

Whereas, foster care providers, in collaboration with public and private community partners, support the crucial and sometimes challenging transition process to independence for youth and young adults, and

Whereas, May is National Foster Care Month, and, in 2024, the celebration's theme is "Engaging Youth. Building Supports. Strengthening Opportunities," which stresses the critical need for supporting a successful transition from foster care to personal independence, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes May 2024 as National Foster Care Month in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Vermont Foster/Adoptive Family Alliance, Vermont Kin as Parents, the Green Mountain United Way, and the Commissioner for Children and Families.