
ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: National Adoption Month.

Whereas, National Adoption Month is one month of the year designated to recognize families who adopt and to raise awareness about adoption of children and youth from foster care; and

Whereas, on any given day, there are approximately 8,000 children in Wisconsin living with foster families, many of whom await placement with a loving, adoptive family to protect and care for them; and

Whereas, the number of youth in the foster care system who reach adulthood without being placed in a permanent home has increased by more than 60 percent since 1998; and

Whereas, November has been designated as National Adoption Month and is declared so by presidential proclamation each year; and

Whereas, Wisconsin has recognized that post-adoption services are critical to helping family stability and has utilized Adoption Resources of Wisconsin, Catholic Charities–Madison, Catholic Charities–La Crosse, and Family Services of Eastern Wisconsin to serve as post-adoption resource centers for our state; and

Whereas, the Jockey Corporation has recognized and focused on supporting post-adoption services with its Jockey Being Family program and corporate initiative to create over 2,000 backpacks that have been distributed through the Home to Stay project, created by Adoption Resources of Wisconsin; and

Whereas, post-adoption resource centers throughout the state have distributed the backpacks and visited families adopting children from foster care to assist in providing information and services; and

Whereas, November 19, 2011, has been designated as National Adoption Day as part of National Adoption Month, a day on which many adoptions in this state and country will be legally finalized; and

Whereas, adoption is invaluable to strengthening families in our state and communities, providing waiting children with a permanent, safe, and loving place to call home; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin legislature recognize November 2011 as National Adoption Month, honor those Wisconsin families who make a meaningful difference in the life of a child by choosing to adopt, and urge all residents to join in the effort to raise awareness about the importance of adoption.

Senator Michael G. Ellis
President of the Senate

Representative Jeff Fitzgerald
Speaker of the Assembly

Date

Patrick E. Fuller
Assembly Chief Clerk