WHEREAS; the recognizes that our state's most vulnerable children have the opportunities and resources they need, which can best be met by belonging in a family and

WHEREAS; the United States has over 400,000 children in the foster care system who are awaiting adoption. Illinois has 22,000 alone; and

WHEREAS; thousands of children are entering foster care in Illinois every year, we support children and families with information, resources, and support they need and deserve; and

WHEREAS; our state is so proud to help foster homes, children in care, people who want to become foster parents, and those on their fostering journey.

WHEREAS; this month, the joins all of those involved with foster care in recognizing their loyal and steadfast devotion to the safety, stability, and well-being of Illinois children and families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, , of , Illinois, do hereby proclaim May 2023 as NATIONAL FOSTER

CARE MONTH throughout . I commend this observance to all all our residents.