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PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS: the family unit is the basic, most efficient level of government and the real strength of our society, and,
- WHEREAS: the parents occupy a significant role, providing love, instruction, counsel, discipline, reward, example and inspiration as well as ministering to the material needs of their children, and,
- WHEREAS: the foster home is providing an increasingly valuable family experience and successful alternative to institutional care for over 6500 children in Minnesota who have, because of unfortunate circumstances not of their own making, been deprived of their natural parents, and,
- WHEREAS: Minnesota is fortunate in having 4500 such foster homes caring for over 6500 foster children, and,
- WHEREAS: the unselfish "parents" who open their homes and their hearts to these children who need a new "family" and a new opportunity for achievement and human dignity, do so without personal regard other than the satisfaction of service to a child in need, and,
- WHEREAS: this tremendous service represents an immeasurable savings in human resources and a very substantial savings, estimated at upwards of \$35 million annually, over institutional care, and,
- WHEREAS: there is a continuing need for 600 new foster homes in Minnesota each year to keep abreast of the need for a wholesome family environment for additional youngsters that lose contact with their natural parents,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Wendell Anderson, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the period of September 12th through 18th, 1971, as

"FOSTER PARENTS WEEK"

in Minnesota, and urge all citizens to honor and pay a special tribute to those outstanding humanitarians who have opened their homes and hearts to unfortunate children.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this eighth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-one, and of the State, the one hundred fourteenth.

*Wendell P. Anderson*  
GOVERNOR

*Allen J. Erdahl*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

23877  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FILED

SEP 8 - 1971  
*Allen J. Erdahl*  
Secretary of State