



Proclamation

- REAS: A COALITION OF ADOPTIVE PARENTS AND CONCERNED CITIZENS - KNOWN AS THE NORTH AMERICAN COUNCIL ON ADOPTABLE CHILDREN - AND ITS MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS; OURS, ADOPTION TODAY, AND THE CITIZENS COALITION ON PERMANENCE FOR CHILDREN IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA - RECOGNIZES THE RIGHT OF EVERY CHILD TO GROW UP IN A SECURE, LOVING FAMILY; AND
- REAS: THERE ARE NEARLY ONE HALF MILLION CHILDREN IN THE UNITED STATES IN NEED OF PERMANENT, NURTURING HOMES, AND ONE THIRD OF THESE CHILDREN WILL KNOW SUCH PERMANENCE ONLY THROUGH ADOPTION; AND
- REAS: MANY OF THESE CHILDREN ARE CONSIDERED TO HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS, BEING OF SCHOOL AGE, HAVING EMOTIONAL OR PHYSICAL HANDICAPS, OR BEING A PART OF SIBLING OR ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS; AND
- REAS: IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, 1225 CHILDREN HAVE BEEN LEGALLY FREED FOR ADOPTION, AND 66% OF THESE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN IN FOSTER/INTERIM CARE FOR TWO YEARS OR MORE, A KIND OF CARE INTENDED TO BE ONLY TEMPORARY; AND
- REAS: EXPERIENCE SHOWS THAT ONLY 10% OF THOSE CHILDREN IN CARE IN MINNESOTA FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS ARE ADOPTED; AND
- REAS: ADOPTION IS CHANGING, AND NOW SINGLE PERSONS, HANDICAPPED PARENTS, AND THOSE FROM ETHNIC MINORITY AND LOW INCOME GROUPS ARE BUILDING FAMILIES THROUGH ADOPTION, AND FAMILIES CAN INDEED BE FOUND FOR SO CALLED "SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN";

THEREFORE, I, ALBERT H. QUIE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, DO HEREBY CLAIM THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23 THROUGH 29, 1980 TO BE

NATIONAL ADOPTION WEEK

MINNESOTA, AND HAVE ASKED LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR LOU WANGBERG TO PREPARE THIS PROCLAMATION FOR MY SIGNATURE AND DISSEMINATE THE SAME. FURTHER, I ENCOURAGE PUBLICITY, EDUCATION, FAMILY RECRUITING AND SUPPORTIVE PROGRAMS IN ADOPTION SO THAT ALL CHILDREN GROW UP WITH STABILITY, LOVE AND A SENSE OF BELONGING.

WITNESS WHEREOF, WE HAVE HEREUNTO SET OUR HANDS AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO BE AFFIXED THIS FOURTEENTH DAY OF NOVEMBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY, AND OF THE STATE THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-SECOND.

Jean Anderson Graue

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Albert H. Quie
Lou Wangberg
GOVERNOR