

Proclamation

WHEREAS: THE NORTH AMERICAN COUNCIL ON ADOPTABLE CHILDREN AND THE CITIZENS COALITION ON PERMANENCE FOR CHILDREN, ORGANIZATIONS OF CONCERNED CITIZENS AND ADOPTIVE AND FOSTER PARENTS RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF EVERY CHILD TO GROW UP IN A SECURE, LOVING FAMILY; AND

WHEREAS: MANY OF THE ONE-HALF MILLION CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS - EMOTIONAL OR PHYSICAL HANDICAPS, OLDER, OR MEMBERS OF SIBLING GROUPS OR ETHNIC MINORITIES; AND

WHEREAS: THE U. S. CONGRESS PASSED THE ADOPTION ASSISTANCE AND CHILD WELFARE Act of 1980 to increase preventive services for children in need, and provide subsidized adoption opportunities for special needs children; and

WHEREAS: MINNESOTANS VIEW FOSTER CARE AS TEMPORARY AND DIRECT THEIR ENERGIES TO EITHER RETURNING CHILDREN HOME, PLACING THEM IN THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE FOSTER CARE, OR FINDING ADOPTIVE HOMES FOR CHILDREN UNABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR BIOLOGICAL FAMILIES; AND

WHEREAS: IN MINNESOTA 390 STATE WARDS WERE PLACED INTO ADOPTIVE HOMES IN FY 82, WHILE 972 REMAIN LEGALLY FREED FOR ADOPTION, AND OVER 7,000 CHILDREN ARE IN FOSTER CARE; AND

WHEREAS: MINNESOTA'S SUBSIDIZED ADOPTION AND ADOPTION EXCHANGE LEGISLATION ARE VIEWED AS NATIONAL MODELS OF COST EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALBERT H. QUIE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 21 THROUGH 27, 1982 TO BE

ADOPTION, WEEK

IN MINNESOTA. FURTHER, I ENCOURAGE SUPPORT FOR COST-EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS SUCH AS PREVENTIVE SERVICES, PERIODIC REVIEWS, EXCHANGE AND PHOTOLISTING, THURSDAY'S CHILD, AND ADOPTION SUBSIDY WHICH HAVE WORKED EFFECTIVELY TO MOVE MINNESOTA'S WAITING CHILDREN INTO PERMANENCY SO THAT ALL CHILDREN MAY GROW UP WITH STABILITY, LOVE, AND A SENSE OF BELONGING.

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

STATE OF MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF STATE FILED NOV 9 1982

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