

HR0972 LRB100 21482 MST 38241 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, National Foster Care Month originated in 1988 2 3 under President Ronald Reagan to give foster parents the 4 recognition they deserve for opening their homes to children in 5 need; and 6 WHEREAS, Foster Care Month recognizes the foster parents 7 who work to provide a bright future for the children in their 8 care; and 9 WHEREAS, Illinois is strongly committed to ensuring that children grow up healthy and safe; and 10 11 WHEREAS, Over 16,000 children in Illinois are looking for 12 permanent families to give them the love and care they need and 13 deserve, and to help them reach their goals; and 14 WHEREAS, In order to give foster youth the support they 15 need, people all over Illinois are stepping up to serve as 16 mentors, teachers, faith leaders, caseworkers, advocates, and 17 kinship caregivers; and WHEREAS, Declaring Foster Care Month in Illinois provides 18 19 an opportunity to recognize foster parents for their hard work

and dedication to children; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize May of 2018 as Foster Care Month in Illinois to give recognition to those who devote their lives to improving the lives of foster children, and to bring awareness to the hardships foster children face and the unique and rewarding opportunities to help and serve them; and be it further 7

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Beverly J. Walker, Director of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.