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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, May is annually recognized as National Foster  
3 Care Awareness Month to highlight the needs of children living  
4 in foster care and the contributions that foster parents make  
5 to society by opening their homes to children in need; and

6           WHEREAS, There are almost 21,000 children living in foster  
7 care in the State of Illinois; and

8           WHEREAS, Children in foster care come from different  
9 backgrounds, with many of them accompanied by brothers and  
10 sisters; they need the comfort, support, and security that  
11 only a family can provide; and

12           WHEREAS, Foster parents are the frontline caregivers for  
13 children who cannot safely remain with their parents, and they  
14 provide physical care, emotional support, and education  
15 advocacy; and

16           WHEREAS, An increased emphasis on prevention and  
17 reunification services is necessary to reduce the number of  
18 children that are forced to remain in the foster care system;  
19 and

20           WHEREAS, Children who age out of foster care often lack

1 the security or support necessary to secure affordable  
2 housing, obtain health insurance, pursue higher education, and  
3 acquire adequate employment; and

4 WHEREAS, Illinois is strongly committed to ensuring that  
5 children grow up healthy and safe in supportive homes and  
6 families; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
8 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
9 we recognize the month of May 2023 as National Foster Care  
10 Awareness Month; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
12 presented to the Foster Care Alumni of America as a symbol of  
13 our respect and esteem.