

House Concurrent Resolution No. 25

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MCGEE.

1647H.011

1 **WHEREAS**, in 1912 the Children’s Bureau was created and has worked to assist
2 children and youth in foster care; engage youth in decisions that affect their lives; and support
3 foster families, kinship caregivers, child welfare professionals, and others who keep these
4 children; and

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6 **WHEREAS**, in 1988 President Reagan issued the first presidential proclamation that
7 established the month of May as National Foster Care Month; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, a yearly proclamation from the President supports the Children's Bureau
10 in their effort by recognizing the work of foster families, social workers, faith-based and
11 community organizations, and others who are improving the lives of young people in foster care
12 across the country and by encouraging all Americans to participate in efforts to serve these
13 children throughout the year; and

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15 **WHEREAS**, in 2012, 1,172 children were adopted from foster care in Missouri while
16 another 2,067 children in Missouri foster care were waiting to be adopted; and

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18 **WHEREAS**, research shows that youth who age out of foster care will face obstacles
19 such as homelessness, unemployment, early parenting, and substance abuse; and

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21 **WHEREAS**, adoption provides children with a lifetime of emotional and legal
22 connections to a family; and

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24 **WHEREAS**, if foster parents and relative caregivers are provided with adequate support,
25 they will be in a better position to provide children with permanency:

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27 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
28 Representatives of the Ninety-ninth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
29 concurring therein, hereby designate the month of May as Foster Care Awareness Month in the
30 state of Missouri; and

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32 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the General Assembly recommends to the citizens
33 of this state to observe the month by taking time to help youth in foster care and recognizing the
34 commitment of all who touch their lives.

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