

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 128

BY SENATOR HEITMEIER

A RESOLUTION

To recognize the month of May as "Foster Care Awareness Month" in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the safety of children is paramount to the citizens of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the family, serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem, and support, is the very foundation of our communities; and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana there are more than seventy-three hundred children and youth served annually in foster care who are being provided with a safe, secure, and stable temporary home or care setting; and

WHEREAS, all young people in foster care deserve a meaningful, permanent connection to a caring adult who is a supportive and lasting presence in their lives; and

WHEREAS, foster, kinship, and adoptive families play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reconnect, thereby launching young people into successful school, work, and family lives; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Family Services recognizes the support, generosity, and love provided by the two thousand foster families who take into their homes abused and neglected children in Louisiana's foster care program; and

WHEREAS, dedicated foster families frequently adopt foster children, resulting in a need for more foster families; and

WHEREAS, numerous individuals and organizations, including law enforcement, court systems, CASA, and foster families advocate regarding the needs of children in foster care; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Family Services, through the "Faith in Families" program, is working to reduce the amount of time children spend in foster care and to improve outcomes for foster children in Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the month of May as "Foster Care Awareness Month" in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Suzy Sonnier, secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE