



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 01-033

BY SENATOR(S) Epps, Anderson, Cairns, Arnold, Chlouber, Dyer (Arapahoe), Dyer (Durango), Entz, Fitz-Gerald, Evans, Gordon, Hagedorn, Hanna, Hernandez, Linkhart, Matsunaka, May, McElhany, Nichol, Owen, Pascoe, Perlmutter, Phillips, Reeves, Takis, Tate, Taylor, Teck, Thiebaut, Tupa, and Windels;
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Alexander, Bacon, Berry, Borodkin, Boyd, Cadman, Chavez, Clapp, Cloer, Coleman, Crane, Daniel, Dean, Decker, Fairbank, Fritz, Garcia, Groff, Grossman, Hefley, Hodge, Hoppe, Jahn, Jameson, Johnson, Kester, King, Larson, Lawrence, Lee, Mace, Madden, Marshall, Miller, Mitchell, Nuñez, Paschall, Plant, Ragsdale, Rhodes, Rippy, Romanoff, Saliman, Sanchez, Schultheis, Scott, Sinclair, Smith, Snook, Spence, Spradley, Stafford, Stengel, Swenson, Tapia, Tochtrop, Veiga, Vigil, Webster, Weddig, White, Williams, S., Williams, T., Witwer, and Young.

CONCERNING FOSTER CARE MONTH.

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

WHEREAS, In Colorado there are 8,000 children and youth in foster care who are provided with a safe, secure, and stable home along with the compassion and nurture of a foster family; and

WHEREAS, Foster families, who open their homes and hearts to children whose families are in crisis, play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reconnect and in launching children into successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, There is a great need for more foster families; and

WHEREAS, Many youth reach their eighteenth birthday and "age out" of foster care, too often unprepared and lacking the ongoing support and guidance of caring adults; and

WHEREAS, The recently enacted John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program will provide additional services to young people making the transition from foster care to self-sufficient adulthood and citizenship; and

WHEREAS, There are numerous individuals and public and private organizations that work to increase public awareness of the needs of children in and leaving foster care; and

WHEREAS, Foster parents make an enduring and valuable contribution and the foster care "system" is only as good as those who choose to be part of it; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-third General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:

That the General Assembly declares May to be Foster Care Month in Colorado.

Be It Further Resolved, That the General Assembly urges all citizens to be supportive of the efforts of foster parents.

Stan Matsunaka
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Doug Dean
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Karen Goldman
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE

Judith Rodrigue
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES