
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 95

Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY WASHINGTON, MELLOW, ARMSTRONG, ORIE, STOUT,
FONTANA, FUMO, GREENLEAF, KITCHEN, TARTAGLIONE, C. WILLIAMS,
BOSCOLA, ERICKSON, PIPPY, COSTA, EARLL, KASUNIC, WOZNIAK,
MUSTO, LAVALLE, RAFFERTY, FERLO, O'PAKE, WONDERLING AND
LOGAN, APRIL 23, 2007

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 23, 2007

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2007 as "Foster Care Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Families are the primary source of love, identity,
4 self-esteem and support and the very foundation of our
5 communities and our State; and

6 WHEREAS, In this Commonwealth there are 20,925 children and
7 youths in foster care; and

8 WHEREAS, Foster families provide safe, secure and stable
9 homes, compassion and nurturing; and

10 WHEREAS, Some 54.4% of children with State agency involvement
11 in fiscal year 2005 were adopted by their foster parents, and
12 12.3% were adopted by relatives; and

13 WHEREAS, There are more than 556,000 children in foster care
14 in the United States; and

15 WHEREAS, Foster families open their homes and hearts to
16 children whose families are in crisis, helping children and

1 families heal and reconnect and launching children into
2 successful adulthood; and

3 WHEREAS, Of the young people leaving the foster care system,
4 59.5% were reunified with their birth parents or primary
5 caregivers; and

6 WHEREAS, Dedicated foster families frequently adopt foster
7 children, resulting in a greater need for more foster families;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, During the month of May the spotlight shines on the
10 children and teens, the foster families and the dedicated child
11 welfare professionals who make foster care work; and

12 WHEREAS, During the month of May we have an opportunity to
13 change the public perception that children in foster care are
14 the responsibility of someone else; and

15 WHEREAS, "National Foster Care Month" honors children and
16 youths in foster care and their foster families; and

17 WHEREAS, "National Foster Care Month" raises public awareness
18 of the need for more foster families, the need to keep siblings
19 in foster care together and the need to keep children in foster
20 care in their own communities and schools; and

21 WHEREAS, Our priorities must include recruiting and training
22 more foster parents, keeping children connected to their
23 extended family and supporting the foster families we have; and

24 WHEREAS, More public attention and resources must be focused
25 on those children in foster care who "age out" of the system;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, Numerous individuals, public and private
28 organizations work tirelessly to increase public awareness of
29 the needs of children in and leaving foster care; therefore be
30 it

1 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of May 2007 as
2 "Foster Care Month" in Pennsylvania and urge all citizens to
3 change lives by sharing their hearts and opening their homes to
4 help children in foster care and by supporting foster parents
5 and child welfare professionals.