

By Senator Baxley

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Senate Resolution

A resolution encouraging Floridians to consider opening their hearts and homes to children in this state who are in need of a loving family, and recognizing November 2021 as "Florida Adoption Month."

WHEREAS, it is paramount that Florida's children and families have the opportunities necessary to reach their full potential and lead healthy lives, and

WHEREAS, all children deserve a loving, supportive, nurturing, and permanent family of their own, and

WHEREAS, adoption is an opportunity to change the life of a child and the families that might adopt them while making an impact on local communities, and

WHEREAS, anyone with the ability to love and provide for a child and to make a lifelong commitment can be an adoptive parent, and

WHEREAS, 4,548 Florida children found permanent homes through adoption during the 2019-2020 state fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, approximately 800 Florida children, including teenagers, sibling groups, and children with special medical needs, are available for adoption and have no identified adoptive family, and

WHEREAS, First Lady Casey DeSantis, as chair of the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet and through her "Hope for Healing Florida" program, is working alongside state agencies to improve the health, safety, economic stability, and quality of life of Florida's children, and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Office of Adoption and Child

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30 Protection, the Florida Department of Children and Families,  
31 community-based care lead agencies, the Florida Association of  
32 Heart Galleries, state and local agencies, and child advocacy  
33 organizations join together each November to raise awareness of  
34 foster care adoptions in Florida, and

35 WHEREAS, this year, Florida will celebrate National  
36 Adoption Month and Florida Adoption Month with its 30 Days of  
37 Amazing Children campaign on the Explore Adoption website,  
38 www.adoptflorida.org, and

39 WHEREAS, families and children across this state and nation  
40 will celebrate adoption on November 20, 2021, National Adoption  
41 Day, while also remembering the children who are still in need  
42 of a loving, permanent family of their own, NOW, THEREFORE,

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44 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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46 That Floridians are encouraged to consider opening their  
47 hearts and homes to children in this state who are in need of a  
48 loving family, and that November 2021 is recognized as "Florida  
49 Adoption Month."