



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, all children deserve a safe, loving and permanent home; and

WHEREAS, the primary goal of the foster care system is to ensure the safety and well-being of children while working to provide a safe, loving and permanent home for each child; and

WHEREAS, approximately 6,000 children are living in foster care in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, foster parents are the front-line caregivers for children who cannot safely remain with their biological parents, who provide physical care, emotional support and education advocacy for the children in their care, and are the largest single source of families providing permanent homes for children transitioning from foster care to adoption; and

WHEREAS, children in foster care who are placed with relatives, compared to children placed with nonrelatives, have more stability, including fewer changes in placements, have more positive perceptions of their placements, are more likely to be placed with their siblings and demonstrate fewer behavioral problems; and

WHEREAS, foster care is intended to be a temporary placement, yet children remain in the foster care system for an average of two years; and

WHEREAS, May 2018, is an appropriate month to designate as "National Foster Care Month" to provide an opportunity to acknowledge the accomplishments of the child-welfare workforce, foster parents, the advocacy community and mentors for their dedication, accomplishments and positive impact on the lives of children;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim May 2018, as

Foster Care Month

in the State of Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 30th day of May 2018.

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor