

STATE OF OHIO  
Executive Department  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
Columbus

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the theme for November 2018 is “National Adoption Month – In Their Own Words: Lifting up Youth Voices”; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 15,800 Ohio children live in foster homes or other out-of-home; placement settings; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 2,800 of those children in foster care are waiting to be adopted; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 1,200 of the children awaiting adoption are age 13 and older and;

**WHEREAS**, the children age 13 and older awaiting adoption have been in foster care for an average of 1,618 days, which is 4 years and 5 months; and

**WHEREAS**, 253 of those children will turn 18 in the next year and are at risk of aging out of the child welfare system without a forever family; and

**WHEREAS**, providing an older child with lifelong positive connections is one of life’s most treasured gifts; and

**WHEREAS**, these children can succeed and reach their full potential when they are prepared for adoption and their voices are heard and

**WHEREAS**, adoption offers a unique experience that positively affects children and enriches the lives of the families who welcome them; and

**WHEREAS**, no child should linger in foster care or leave the system at any age without a permanent family of their own; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, along with other public and private child caring agencies throughout the state, work diligently in search of safe, stable, permanent homes for Ohio’s most vulnerable children; and

**WHEREAS**, it takes 100% Heart to Foster and Adopt in Ohio:

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, John R. Kasich and Mary Taylor, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio**, do hereby designate November 2018 as

**ADOPTION RECOGNITION AND RECRUITMENT  
MONTH**

throughout Ohio and encourage all citizens to celebrate this worthy occasion and continue to open their hearts and homes to our children in foster care who are waiting to be adopted.

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 2018;

**John R. Kasich**  
Governor

**Mary Taylor**  
Lieutenant Governor

