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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Each year, more than 4,000 children who have been
3 abused or neglected cannot remain with their families safely;
4 these children need and deserve the temporary safe haven of a
5 family home, where they can be protected, nurtured, and loved;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Without volunteer foster families, the Illinois
8 Department of Children and Family Services would not be able to
9 fulfill its mission to provide for the well-being of the nearly
10 15,000 children currently in its care; and

11 WHEREAS, The Department and its nonprofit partners provide
12 a wide range of supports to assist foster families in meeting
13 not only a child's basic physical needs, but also to ensure
14 their educational, emotional, and social well-being, none of
15 which can be achieved without the dedication of foster
16 families; and

17 WHEREAS, Foster families answer a noble calling to devote
18 their time and energies to children to reunite families when
19 possible, support other permanency options, and create
20 opportunities for a successful launch to adulthood; and

21 WHEREAS, Foster families provide children with the one

1 thing they need the most, which cannot come from a government
2 or nonprofit agency, but only from the heart of another human
3 being: love; and

4 WHEREAS, It is impossible to quantify the minute and
5 magnificent ways foster parents change lives; they deserve the
6 utmost respect and gratitude for the lasting impact they have
7 in the life of a child, in their communities, and on the future
8 prosperity of this State; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
11 we designate the month of May of 2013 as Foster Parent
12 Appreciation Month in the State of Illinois; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That we extend our thanks on behalf of the people
14 of this State to the thousands of Illinois foster families and
15 encourage everyone to consider joining them in their noble
16 service to children, communities, and our State.