

FOSTER CARE MONTH

WHEREAS: Many children in Georgia have benefited from their placement with concerned citizens in our communities who have become foster parents; and

WHEREAS: Today the State of Georgia is providing foster care for over 14,000 children, some of whom are placed in the homes of relatives; and

WHEREAS: Foster families across the state have opened their homes and extended love and security to these children and have supported their birth families in meeting the goals necessary to reunify parents and their children; and

WHEREAS: The success of Georgia's foster care program depends upon the dedication of those citizens who choose to be a part of it; and

WHEREAS: The foster parents of Georgia deserve our respect and support as crucial members of the state's foster care team; and

WHEREAS: Numerous individuals and public and private organizations work to support Georgia's foster care program and increase public awareness of the needs of children or making the transition; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 2003 as FOSTER CARE MONTH and May 5-11, 2003, as FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION WEEK in Georgia in honor and recognition of these very caring citizens and the invaluable services they provide for our children.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 16th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand three.

