

By Senator Baxley

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution encouraging Floridians to consider
3 opening their hearts and homes to children in this
4 state who are in need of a loving family, and
5 recognizing November 2021 as "Florida Adoption Month."
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7 WHEREAS, it is paramount that Florida's children and
8 families have the opportunities necessary to reach their full
9 potential and lead healthy lives, and

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 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."