No. R-132. House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2023 as National Foster Care Month in Vermont.

(H.C.R.106)

Offered by: Committee on Human Services

Whereas, all children deserve a safe, loving, and nurturing home, and

Whereas, families serve as the primary support structure for personal identity and community connections, and

Whereas, foster care nurtures family relationships, and foster care providers help children and youth develop, and

Whereas, in Vermont, there are over 1,000 children and youth in the custody of the Department for Children and Families who are living with dedicated foster, kinship, and respite care providers in homes where the children's need for safety and belonging is ensured until their parents can safely resume family responsibilities, and

Whereas, many foster families create permanency for children and youth through adoption when they cannot safely return to live with their birth families, and

Whereas, foster care providers, in collaboration with public and private community partners, support the transition of youth and young adults to successful independence, and

Whereas, May is National Foster Care Month and is an ideal occasion to raise awareness of foster care and to celebrate those individuals who are dedicated to serving our children, youth, and families, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes May 2023 as National Foster Care Month in Vermont, and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Vermont Foster Adoptive Family Alliance, Vermont Kin as Parents, and the Vermont Commissioner for Children and Families.