



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, all New Yorkers join to support the worthy and valuable goals of National Adoption Month which raises awareness of the importance of adoption for children and youth in foster care, and this November marks the seventeenth annual observance, highlighting the need for adoptive parents in its theme, "You don't have to be perfect to be a perfect parent"; and

Whereas, the youth of the Empire State are precious and represent our greatest hope for the future, and all children deserve a permanent, loving family and a nurturing, safe and stable environment in which they can grow up to enjoy the benefits of a healthy, productive life; and

Whereas, it is important that we remember all the children who are in foster care waiting to be adopted as part of a loving and caring family, as finding families for these children is our goal in New York State; and

Whereas, many of these children have special conditions or circumstances – some have physical, emotional and/or behavioral challenges and a number of them are siblings who want to grow up together in the closeness of the same home; and

Whereas, in 2008, 2,328 children in New York State were adopted from foster care and over 6,000 children in foster care throughout New York State have a goal of adoption, 1,146 children of them now freed and awaiting permanent placement with a family; and

Whereas, in observing Adoption Month, we also recognize the valuable contributions of adoptive parents who continually strive to improve the quality of life for the children they bring into their lives; and

Whereas, as we gather together as a family, community, State and Nation to celebrate and give thanks for our many blessings, it is the hope of New Yorkers that all children awaiting adoption will quickly be placed in a permanent and loving family and, therefore, it is fitting to support and promote the goals of Adoption Month during this special season of thanks, giving each of us countless reasons to be grateful;

Now, Therefore, I, David A. Paterson, Governor of New York State, do hereby proclaim November 2009 as

ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-ninth
day of October in the year two thousand nine.

David A. Paterson

Governor

James Schwartz
Secretary to the Governor