

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 183**

**RESOLUTION CHAPTER 170**

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 183—Relative to California Adoption Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 16, 2010.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 183, Fletcher. California Adoption Month.

This measure would declare November 2010 to be California Adoption Month.

WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of this state to increase awareness regarding the adoption of children and youth from foster care; and

WHEREAS, Every child in California should live in a safe, stable, permanent home, nurtured by healthy families and strong communities; and

WHEREAS, Every child needs and deserves to feel love and a sense of belonging, and have the continuity of family and loved ones to support and guide them in their lives; and

WHEREAS, The efforts throughout our great state of public and private adoption agencies, lawyers, and other adoption professionals that work tirelessly to find the best family support for children and youth who cannot safely return to their own families, and the efforts of child welfare jurisdictions that are increasingly placing an emphasis on permanency in their policy and practice, should be acknowledged and supported; and

WHEREAS, There are many forms of adoption in California, including agency adoptions, independent adoptions, relative adoptions, stepparent adoptions, and guardianships, that assist children and prospective parents in building families; and

WHEREAS, The very important need to find and support permanent homes for California's children and youth in foster care should also be acknowledged and supported; and

WHEREAS, Children with loving, caring, and involved parents can better realize their full potential and thrive by encouragement from their parents to aim high, work hard, and make the right choices that will lead to a healthy and satisfying life; and

WHEREAS, During the 2008–09 fiscal year, over 7,250 children were adopted in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, There are over 62,500 children in the California foster care system; and

WHEREAS, More than 18,000 of the children in foster care are awaiting adoption into a permanent home; and

WHEREAS, There are millions of children worldwide awaiting permanent, safe, loving homes; and

WHEREAS, Six in 10 Americans have had a personal experience with adoption; meaning they, a family member, or a close friend was adopted, has adopted a child, or has placed a child for adoption; and

WHEREAS, Loving and nurturing families are formed every day when committed and dedicated individuals make an important difference in the life of a child through adoption; and

WHEREAS, In the United States, over 1.7 million families have created homes for adopted children; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring,* That the Legislature declares November 2010 to be California Adoption Month; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution for appropriate distribution.