



2011 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 67

October 18, 2011 – Introduced by Representatives KERKMAN, BERNIER, STONE, BIES, BROOKS, E. COGGS, CRAIG, ENDSLEY, GRIGSBY, JACQUE, JORGENSEN, LEMAHIEU, MARKLEIN, MASON, MOLEPSKE JR, A. OTT, PETRYK, POCAN, PRIDEMORE, RIPP, SPANBAUER, STEINBRINK, STRACHOTA, STROEBEL, THIESFELDT, TRANEL, VOS, ZEPNICK and ZIEGELBAUER, cosponsored by Senators LAZICH, CARPENTER, GROTHMAN, HOLPERIN, OLSEN, RISSER, TAYLOR, VINEHOUT and WANGGAARD. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** National Adoption Month.

2 Whereas, National Adoption Month is one month of the year designated to
3 recognize families who adopt and to raise awareness about adoption of children and
4 youth from foster care; and

5 Whereas, on any given day, there are approximately 8,000 children in
6 Wisconsin living with foster families, many of whom await placement with a loving,
7 adoptive family to protect and care for them; and

8 Whereas, the number of youth in the foster care system who reach adulthood
9 without being placed in a permanent home has increased by more than 60 percent
10 since 1998; and

11 Whereas, November has been designated as National Adoption Month and is
12 declared so by presidential proclamation each year; and

13 Whereas, Wisconsin has recognized that post-adoption services are critical to
14 helping family stability and has utilized Adoption Resources of Wisconsin, Catholic

1 Charities–Madison, Catholic Charities–La Crosse, and Family Services of Eastern
2 Wisconsin to serve as post–adoption resource centers for our state; and

3 Whereas, the Jockey Corporation has recognized and focused on supporting
4 post–adoption services with its Jockey Being Family program and corporate
5 initiative to create over 2,000 backpacks that have been distributed through the
6 Home to Stay project, created by Adoption Resources of Wisconsin; and

7 Whereas, post–adoption resource centers throughout the state have
8 distributed the backpacks and visited families adopting children from foster care to
9 assist in providing information and services; and

10 Whereas, November 19, 2011, has been designated as National Adoption Day
11 as part of National Adoption Month, a day on which many adoptions in this state and
12 country will be legally finalized; and

13 Whereas, adoption is invaluable to strengthening families in our state and
14 communities, providing waiting children with a permanent, safe, and loving place
15 to call home; now, therefore, be it

16 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the
17 Wisconsin legislature recognize November 2011 as National Adoption Month, honor
18 those Wisconsin families who make a meaningful difference in the life of a child by
19 choosing to adopt, and urge all residents to join in the effort to raise awareness about
20 the importance of adoption.

21 (END)