

MOTION BY CHAIR HILDA L. SOLIS

May 24, 2016

**FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH**

Foster children who have suffered the trauma of abuse and neglect require a special kind of person to help them heal and work with families toward successful reunification or a permanent home. In May, we celebrate “Foster Care Awareness Month” to recognize patient, loving, and committed individuals who provide a child with safety during a time of crisis. Without the commitment of countless foster and relative caregivers throughout the last 30 years, the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) would not be able to care for and tend to the needs of the many abused and neglected children in Los Angeles County.

As the largest public child welfare agency in the country, DCFS recruits, prepares and supports foster and kinship families to provide healthy, stable and loving homes to children until they can be safely returned to their birth parents or find an alternative permanent home. DCFS welcomes individuals and families—regardless of age, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity, marital or domestic partnership status, medical or disability status—to open up their homes to children in need of a stable home, particularly, infants, sibling groups, teenagers, and children with medical needs.

**M O R E**

**MOTION**

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:

- (1) Declare the month of May 2016 as Foster Care Awareness Month;
- (2) Encourage families and others in the community to consider the benefits and rewards of being a foster parent by calling (888) 811-1121 or visiting [www.ShareYourHeartLA.org](http://www.ShareYourHeartLA.org) to become a foster or adoptive parent; and
- (3) Instruct the Auditor-Controller to print “May is Foster Care Awareness Month. Call 888 811-1121 or visit [www.ShareYourHeartLA.org](http://www.ShareYourHeartLA.org)” on all County warrants, and further, that the Department of Human Resources include the same message on the electronic paystub viewer on e-CAPS.

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