WHEREAS, nearly 15,000 children and youth are in foster care in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, close to 4,000 of those children are placed with kinship caregivers, who play a vital role in maintaining bonds and reducing trauma; and

WHEREAS, more than 8,000 certified foster families in Ohio have committed to providing stability and comfort for children when they cannot safely stay in their own home; and

WHEREAS, parents and foster families working together made it possible for over 7,100 children and youth to be reunified with their families in 2021; and

WHEREAS, dedicated kinship and foster families provide lifelong support for children so they can have positive outcomes during their journey to permanency; and

WHEREAS, every child deserves to keep the meaningful connections they have with their relatives and kin; and

WHEREAS, “Relative and Kin Connections: Keeping Families Strong” is the national theme for Foster Care Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, MIKE DEWINE AND JON HUSTED, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize May 2022 as

FOSTER CARE MONTH

On this 1st day of May 2022.

[Signature of Governor]
Mike DeWine
Governor

[Signature of Lieutenant Governor]
Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor