

[4/23/79-Not Submitted] [CF, O/A 548]

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ID 791574

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DF

DATE: 23 APR 79

FOR ACTION: STU EIZENSTAT

*4/30 - se
may want to
do so in a
way call later*

*5/1 - good idea - but
had time to
need to force issue.
"kill it"*

INFO ONLY:

SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION: NATIONAL ACTION FOR POSTER CHILDREN MONTH

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+ RESPONSE DUE TO RICK HUTCHESON STAFF SECRETARY (456-7052) +

+ BY: 1200 PM WEDNESDAY 25 APR 79 +

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ACTION REQUESTED: YOUR COMMENTS

STAFF RESPONSE: () I CONCUR. () NO COMMENT. () HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

Stu-- We will kill this unless you know of a good reason for it to be issued.

FOR STAFFING
FOR INFORMATION
FROM PRESIDENT'S OUTBOX
LOG IN/TO PRESIDENT TODAY
IMMEDIATE TURNAROUND
NO DEADLINE
LAST DAY FOR ACTION

ADMIN CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL
SECRET
EYES ONLY

ACTION
FYI

VICE PRESIDENT
JORDAN
EIZENSTAT
KRAFT
LIPSHUTZ
MOORE
POWELL
RAFSHOON
WATSON
WEXLER
BRZEZINSKI
MCINTYRE
SCHULTZE

ADAMS
ANDRUS
BELL
BERGLAND
BLUMENTHAL
BROWN
CALIFANO
HARRIS
KREPS
MARSHALL
SCHLESINGER
STRAUSS
VANCE

ARAGON
BUTLER
H. CARTER
CLOUGH
CRUIKSHANK
FALLOWS
FIRST LADY
GAMMILL
HARDEN
HUTCHESON
LINDER
MARTIN
MOE
PETERSON
PETTIGREW
PRESS
SANDERS
VOORDE
WARREN
WISE

Stu - we will kill
This unless you
know of a good reason
for it to be issued

Help
not
submitted



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

GENERAL COUNSEL

April 10, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR RICK HUTCHESON

FROM:

WILLIAM M. HUTCHESON

Nichols

SUBJECT:

Proposed Proclamation of Observance

Attached is a proposed proclamation for National Action for Foster Children Month to be observed this month. This draft and the attached justification were submitted by the Secretary, HEW.

This proposed observance does not meet the criteria established by Presidential policy: it is neither traditional nor supported by a joint resolution of the Congress. In addition, we are well into the month of April and there is very little time left for interest groups to organize appropriate observances.

Another consideration is relevant to this request. In recent years Congress has enacted joint resolutions calling for the observance of National Family Week during the week of Thanksgiving. The proclamation issued pursuant to last year's joint resolution paid tribute to all families, specifically including foster and adoptive families.

Under these circumstances OMB recommends that the proposed proclamation not be issued. If it is to be issued, however, we have no objection to the text of HEW's draft.

Attachments



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20201

APR 6 1979

The Honorable James T. McIntyre
Director, Office of Management
and Budget
Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

On behalf of citizen groups and organizations across the country who are working together to improve services to foster children, I am forwarding for your consideration and approval a proposed Presidential Proclamation for National Action for Foster Children Month, to be observed during April, 1979.

In recognition of the need for a national focus on the problem of inadequate social services to foster children and their families, the first Action Week was established in April 1972. This was the start of a citizens' volunteer movement to bring about changes and improvements, State by State and community by community, which has gained substantial support and public attention. A National Action for Foster Children Month in 1979 will greatly contribute to continued public interest and activity.

Your assistance in bringing this recommendation to the President's attention will be greatly appreciated.

The explanatory material accompanying the Proclamation describes program developments since 1972.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.

Enclosures

EXPLANATORY MATERIAL

National Action for Foster Children was established in 1972. In July 1976, NAFC was awarded a three-year demonstration grant by the Children's Bureau. During the grant period, NAFC has assisted in the establishment of 11 State-wide Action Committees, 18 local Action Committees, and has worked with an additional 10 sites to begin Action Committee planning.

Organizations represented on the National Action for Foster Children Committees are:

American Bar Association
American GI Forum
American Legion Commission for Children and Youth
Association of Junior Leagues
Child Welfare League of America
National Association for Retarded Citizens
National Conference of Catholic Charities
National Congress of Parents and Teachers
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
National Council of Jewish Women
National Council of State Committees for Children
and Youth
National Foster Parent Association
National Ruritan
National Urban League
North American Indian Women's Association

Associate Members are:

American Humane Association
B'Nai B'Rith Women

Typical activities of State and local Action Committees include:

- o Developing and implementing foster parent training programs
- o Working with State agencies to develop foster care case review systems
- o Assisting States to implement subsidized adoption legislation
- o Conducting conferences and seminars of state-specific foster family care issues, legislation and administration.

NATIONAL ACTION FOR FOSTER CHILDREN MONTH

By the President of the United States of America

A PROCLAMATION

Every nation views its children as its most valuable asset. Each generation hopes that the next generation will prove to be stronger, healthier, and wiser—and thus lead us on to peace, moral integrity, happiness, and financial stability.

In order to protect and enhance our future, this country plans and provides for its children through our educational systems, maternal and child health programs, juvenile justice system, public welfare, social services and child welfare programs. Recognizing that children in loving family environments have the best chance to grow into healthy and happy adults, the United States Government supports this concept through a partnership with states in funding service programs, developing educational materials, and promoting research in areas of family life and child development. One of the exceptional efforts which originated in the federal system is the National Action for Foster Children which promotes citizen participation and leadership, in order to help provide better services to foster children and their families.

Over 500,000 children in the United States are living apart from their own families in foster homes and group facilities. For a substantial number, placements are repeated with more than one foster family, accompanied by the need for multiple adjustments and with discontinuity of attachments. Although placements of these children are made with good intentions, the resources are not always available to assure them that they will be able to return to their homes within a reasonable period of time. The needs of foster children are real and urgent. They are the concern of all Americans.

In 1972, the President set aside by Proclamation a week in April as National Action for Foster Children Week--as a time to bring before the public the story of our foster children's needs—a time for states and

