WHEREAS: Foster and relative families, who open their homes and hearts to offer help to children whose families are in crisis, play a vital role helping children and families heal, reconnect, and launch children into successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS: In Oregon, there are thousands of youth in foster and relative care being provided with a safe, secure, and stable home along with the compassion and nurture of a temporary family; and

WHEREAS: Dedicated foster and relative families frequently adopt or become guardians for foster children, resulting in a greater need for more foster families; and

WHEREAS: Numerous individuals and public and private organizations work to increase public awareness of the need for foster and relative caregiver families and the valuable contribution foster parents and relative caregivers make to children in need.

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim May 2017 to be FOSTER CARE MONTH

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, May 17, 2017.

Kate Brown, Governor

Dennis Richardson, Secretary of State