STATE OF ARIZONA PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona recognizes the importance of giving children who cannot safely reunify with their birth families a permanent, safe, and nurturing family through adoption; and WHEREAS, state and private agencies work collaboratively with the courts, community members, and members of faith-based organizations to unite children and adults through the process of

adoption; and

WHEREAS, adoption places children into loving, permanent homes where they can flourish and grow up to become happy, healthy, productive members of our community; and

WHEREAS, adopting a child is a great joy, but also a great responsibility for adoptive families and the communities who support the families who care for them; and

WHEREAS, people interested in adoption can visit the DCS Children's Heart Gallery website (https://www.childrensheartgallery.org/) to learn more about Arizona children who are in need of safe, permanent family settings; and

WHEREAS, every successful adoption is more than an achievement for these children and their adoptive families; it is a story in which all Arizonans can share.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim November 2019 as

ARIZONA ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH

and urge all citizens, communities, and support organizations to renew our commitment to increasing the number of Arizona children who find permanency through a loving, adoptive family.

> IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this thirtieth day of October in the year Two Thousand and Nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Fourth.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE