

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1556

Supporting the designation of October as “Foster Youth Voice Month” and encouraging public awareness and participation in events and initiatives organized by youth in foster care.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 29, 2024

Mr. NUNN of Iowa submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

RESOLUTION

Supporting the designation of October as “Foster Youth Voice Month” and encouraging public awareness and participation in events and initiatives organized by youth in foster care.

Whereas the voices of young people who have experienced foster care are crucial in shaping policies and practices that affect their lives and those of their peers;

Whereas, since the Selfless Love Foundation initiated the first “Foster Youth Voice Month” in 2019, organizations in more than 35 States have participated to empower young people in foster care to advocate for themselves and drive systemic change;

Whereas Foster Youth Voice Month, celebrated annually in October, promotes awareness and highlights the experi-

ences, needs, and achievements of young people impacted by the foster care system in the United States;

Whereas an estimated 391,000 youth and young adults are impacted by the foster care system annually in the United States, facing unique challenges and barriers to stability and success;

Whereas recognizing Foster Youth Voice Month nationally will encourage dialogue, collaboration, and support for initiatives focused on cocreating solutions that improve outcomes for young people in foster care; and

Whereas the Selfless Love Foundation and other advocates across the United States have achieved significant policy victories and systems changes, demonstrating how lived experience informs and improves laws and policies, thereby reducing unintended harmful consequences: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the designation of “Foster Youth
3 Voice Month” and encourages public awareness and
4 participation in events and initiatives organized by
5 youth in foster care;

6 (2) acknowledges the contributions and resil-
7 ience of youth in foster care and urges Federal rec-
8 ognition of Foster Youth Voice Month as an official
9 awareness month;

10 (3) acknowledges and celebrates policy victories
11 and systems changes driven by young people with
12 lived experience in foster care, and urges legislative

1 bodies to recognize the value of lived experience in
2 crafting laws and policies to improve outcomes for
3 youth in foster care; and

4 (4) respectfully requests that the Clerk of the
5 House of Representatives transmit an enrolled copy
6 of this resolution to the Selfless Love Foundation.

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