

STATE OF OHIO
Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the number of grandparents and kinship caregivers who are raising their grandchildren and other relative children is not a new phenomenon, the statistics show that it is a situation that is becoming more and more common. These families are often called, "grandfamilies"; and

WHEREAS, the 2012 Census reports that 4.9 million children (7 percent of children in the nation) under the age of 18 live in grandparent-headed households in the United States, which is an increase from 4.5 million living in grandparent-headed households in 2000; and

WHEREAS, the 2012 Census reports that 1.9 million children are living in households headed by other relatives (2.5 percent of the children in the nation), which is an increase from 1.5 million in 2000; and

WHEREAS, in Ohio, 233,699 children under the age of 18 live in homes where the householders are grandparents or other relatives (8.9 percent of the children in the state) and of these, 188,578 live with grandparents who are householders (6.9 percent of the children in the state) and 45,121 live with other relatives who are householders (1.7 percent of the children in the state); and

WHEREAS, 90,673 children live in homes with grandparent householders where grandparents are responsible for them and of these children, 38,861 have no parents present in the home; and

WHEREAS, as increasing numbers of grandchildren rely on grandparents and other relative caregivers for the security of a home, the grandparents and kinship caregivers are taking on more responsibility for raising the children in a tough economy. Many work with financial, health, housing, education, and employment challenges of their own yet they have stepped up to the plate when their loved ones needed them.

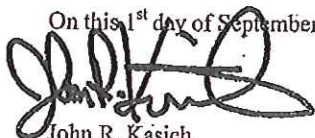
WHEREAS, I commend Ohio's supportive statewide network that is increasing the awareness of resources available to grandparents and kinship caregivers; from the state and county agencies serving these caregivers to the Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition to kinship navigator programs to the Public Children Services Association of Ohio, I thank you for serving the specific and unique needs facing caregivers raising their relative children.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John R. Kasich, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby designate September 2012 as

GRANDPARENT / KINSHIP MONTH

throughout Ohio and encourage communities throughout the state to continue to provide crucial assistance, awareness, and resources to "grandfamilies". We should continue to recognize these caregivers who are giving selflessly of themselves to improve the quality of life for the relative children they are raising.

On this 1st day of September, 2012;



John R. Kasich
Governor