COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Board of Commissioners	Presenter(s):	Carol Chandler
Meeting Date:	Thursday, April 23, 2009	Type of Request:	Presentation/Recognition

Wording for the Agenda:

Proclamation recognizing May 2009 as "Foster Parent Month" and May 12 through May 18, 2009 as "Foster Parent Appreciation Week".

Background/History/Details:

Ms. Susan Boggs, Director of Fayette County's Department of Family and Children's Services, has requested that May, 2009 be proclaimed as "Foster Parent Month" and that the week of May 12-18, 2009 be recognized as "Foster Parent Appreciation Week" in Fayette County.

National Foster Care Month had its genesis in 1988 when the National Foster Parent Association persuaded Senator Strom Thurmond to introduce a resolution proclaiming May as National Foster Care Month. President George H.W. Bush would also issue an annual proclamation during each year of his presidency, providing an impetus for state, county and city proclamations.

These proclamations will bring notice to the work Fayette County DFCS is performing, will honor foster parents across Georgia for their open homes, and will encourage citizens to contribute their talents and their homes on behalf of foster children throughout Fayette County and the State of Georgia.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Present proclamation declaring May, 2009 "Foster Care Month" and the week of May 12th- May 18, 2009 "Foster Parent Appreciation Week" in Fayette County.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not Applicable.

Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past?	No	If so, when?	
Do you need audio-visual for the presentation?	No	Back-up Material Submitted?	Yes

STAFF USE ONLY

Approved by Finance	Yes	Reviewed by Legal	Yes
Approved by Purchasing	Yes	Approved by County Clerk	Yes
Administrator's Approval	Yes		

Staff Notes:

PROCLAMATION
"Foster Care Month"

Whereas, Families are the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem and support for children and youth, who represent the future of our communities; and

Whereas, Today, the State of Georgia is providing foster care for over 14,000 children, some of whom are placed in the homes of relatives; and

Whereas, Foster families across the state who have opened their homes and extended love and security to these children and have supported their birth families in meeting the goals necessary to reunify parents and their children; and

Whereas, The State of Georgia has a need for more foster parents for children so they may have a safe, secure and stable living environment; and

Whereas, Foster families give of themselves to provide a valuable society benefit and a loving home to children in need; and

Whereas, Numerous private and public social service agencies work to increase public awareness of the needs of foster children in Georgia and the role that we must play in addressing this community responsibility; and

Whereas, The month of May is recognized as National Foster Care Month;

Now, therefore, we, the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, do hereby proclaim May, 2009 as

"FOSTER CARE MONTH"

and the week of May 12 through May 18, 2009 as

"FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION WEEK"

in Fayette County, and in doing so we urge our citizens to volunteer their talents and energies on behalf of children in foster care, foster parents and professional foster care program staff.

So proclaimed this 23rd day of April, 2009 by the

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

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Jack R. Smith, Chairman