

# STATE OF ILLINOIS



## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, we celebrate not just the families who have been able to reunify, but also the importance of preventing removals and separations whenever possible and keeping families together through advocacy, support, and services; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services' vision is for every child and youth to grow and thrive in a family; and,*

*WHEREAS, reunification occurs after children have been placed out of the home, with relatives and kinship support such as neighbors, friends, and teachers, helps provide stability each day to children in our communities; and,*

*WHEREAS, there is an ongoing need to engage family and kinship caregivers immediately to maintain family connections and cultural traditions, to minimize the trauma of family separation, and relieve anxieties that come with traditional foster placements; and,*

*WHEREAS, this annual observance celebrates the strength and resilience of families, communities, and advocates working to keep families together; and,*

*WHEREAS, it is not just about reunification - it's about preventing separation and creating systems that support families from the start;*

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim June 2026 as Family Reunification Month in Illinois, and encourage all parents, caregivers, child welfare agencies, courts, service providers, and community members to recognize the importance of supporting the reunification of children and families.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*



*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,*  
this TWENTY-NINTH day of MAY, in  
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and  
TWENTY-SIX, and of the State of Illinois,  
two hundred and SEVENTH.

*Alysi Giannouh*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*JB Pritzker*  
GOVERNOR