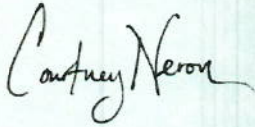


From the Desk of
Representative Courtney Neron



STATE OF OREGON
PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

- WHEREAS:** Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) volunteers advocate statewide for the best interests of children before the court as a result of abuse or neglect; and
- WHEREAS:** Each year more than 8,000 children in Oregon enter the foster care system at no fault of their own due to allegations of abuse or neglect and rely on adults to advocate on their behalf; and
- WHEREAS:** Oregon law requires that CASA volunteers, appointed by a judge, provide the court with comprehensive and objective information to make the most well-informed decisions to ensure positive outcomes for children and youth, and to take time to build meaningful and authentic relationships with these children and youth; and
- WHEREAS:** The Oregon CASA programs exist in every Oregon county, and more than 2,300 CASA volunteers have donated more than 250,000 hours of service to Oregon children; and
- WHEREAS:** Research shows that when a CASA volunteer is appointed, outcomes are strengthened for children and families, more needed services are ordered, children are significantly less likely to reenter the child welfare system, children perform better academically and behaviorally, and have higher levels of hope.
- WHEREAS:** Oregon commends CASA volunteers for their dedication and hard work in advocating for the best interests of children so that every child can be safe, have a permanent home, and have the opportunity to thrive.

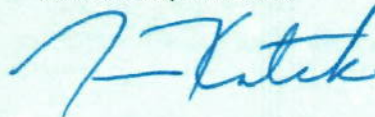
**NOW,
THEREFORE:** I, Tina Kotek, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim **May 18, 2023** to be

CASA VOLUNTEER DAY

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, May 10, 2023.

Tina Kotek, Governor



Cheryl Myers, Acting Secretary of State

