

By: Representative Wooldridge

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN  
ARKANSAS AND TO COMMEND THE COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL  
ADVOCATE (CASA) PROGRAMS.

### Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE  
PREVENTION MONTH IN ARKANSAS AND TO  
COMMEND THE COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL  
ADVOCATE (CASA) PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, the children of Arkansas are among the state's most valuable resources, and their safety, well-being, and success are vital to the strength and future of our communities; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect remain serious concerns that affect the physical, emotional, and developmental well-being of children across Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, preventing child abuse and neglect requires the commitment of families, communities, nonprofit organizations, and public leaders working together to ensure children are protected and supported; and

WHEREAS, April is recognized nationally as Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time dedicated to increasing awareness, strengthening families, and promoting community involvement in the protection of children; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas is home to twenty-three (23) Court Appointed Special



Advocate (CASA) programs that serve children in the foster care system by recruiting, training, and supporting volunteers appointed by judges to advocate for the best interests of children who have experienced abuse or neglect; and

WHEREAS, CASA volunteers provide vital advocacy by gathering information, making recommendations to the court, and helping ensure that children have the opportunity to achieve safe, stable, and permanent homes; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, two thousand seven hundred eighty (2,780) children in Arkansas were served by more than one thousand three hundred (1,300) CASA advocates, demonstrating a strong commitment by volunteers and professionals to improving outcomes for children in foster care; and

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives recognizes the importance of raising awareness about child abuse prevention and commends CASA programs, their staff, and volunteers for their dedicated service to children and families across the state,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives recognize April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Arkansas and encourage all citizens to support efforts that strengthen families, protect children, and promote safe and nurturing environments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be provided to the Arkansas CASA programs by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives as a symbol of the House of Representatives' respect and appreciation.