



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

WHEREAS, family caregivers are an essential part of Idaho's health care system and provide uncompensated support and care to ill or disabled loved ones and are valued community members who are the backbone of Idaho's long-term care system; and

WHEREAS, caregiving is a multigenerational issue in family life also impacting a broad spectrum of individuals with chronic illnesses which necessitate family caregiving for a lifetime; and

WHEREAS, family caregivers greatly improve the quality of life for their loved ones, spending an average of 20 hours per week providing care, with many caring for their loved ones around the clock; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 300,000 family caregivers in the United States who dedicate their lives to helping their parents, spouses, children with disabilities and other loved ones stay at home; and

WHEREAS, Idaho family caregivers annually provide 201 million hours of unpaid care valued at an estimated \$2 billion in unpaid labor; and

WHEREAS, the number of people needing care is increasing while the number of caregivers is decreasing with an expected ratio of working age adults to older adults to be 3 to 1 by 2020; and

WHEREAS, family caregivers manage increasingly complex medical and/or psychological conditions without the training and support they need; and

WHEREAS, it is vital for family caregivers to take respite to protect their own health, strengthen family relationships, prevent burn-out and enable their care recipients to stay at home up to three times longer; and

WHEREAS, the absence of a solid support structure for family caregivers takes a serious toll on the economic and social wellbeing of families, businesses and communities across Idaho;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim November 2016 to be

NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER MONTH

in Idaho.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 1st day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand and sixteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-first and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-seventh.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

LAWRENCE DENNEY
SECRETARY OF STATE