

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 1, 2019

The Honorable Lynn Johnson  
Assistant Secretary  
Administration for Children and Families  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
330 C Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20201

The Honorable Carl C. Risch  
Assistant Secretary  
Bureau of Consular Affairs  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Assistant Secretary Johnson and Assistant Secretary Risch:

As Co-Chairs of the Congressional Adoption Caucus, we urge you to take action to raise awareness of the importance of adoption as National Adoption Month begins. During this month, we encourage the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Department of State (DOS) to highlight and advocate for much-needed support and resources for foster youth and children waiting to be adopted both domestically and internationally, as well as for the people working to find children loving and permanent homes.

Like so many, we share the belief that every child should have a safe home and a loving family. With countless children in the world without a permanent home, including over 437,300 children in foster care across the country – 125,400 of those children waiting for adoption – we urge HHS and DOS to help these children find permanent homes through adoption from the foster care system, domestic private agencies, intercountry adoption, and family guardianship.

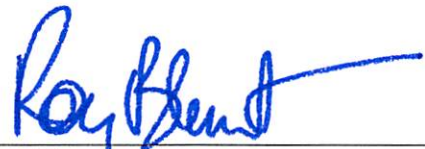
With the help of HHS and DOS, we can continue to increase awareness and build support for those who provide the resources, services, and partnerships that help better the lives of our children. All children deserve much more than just a roof over their heads and a bed to sleep in – every child deserves a loving home, a nurturing family, and a brighter future.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



Roy Blunt  
United States Senator