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STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 92nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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The Children Left Behind

With the coming holiday season, many of us are preparing for Black Friday sales, decorating the house, and maybe even buying the ingredients for homemade recipes. While we are excited to ring in a new year, let us remember there are many people and children that are not so lucky. Roughly 100 million children around the world are wishing to be adopted by a caring and loving family. In the United States alone, there are over 100,000 children waiting to be welcomed into a loving family and that number is only rising.

Even though the percentage may be low of adoptive parents, many of us have at least considered it. In fact, over 100,000 American families adopt annually with many more having a personal experience with an adoptive household whether it be a family member, friend, or may even be adoptive themselves. Often times, you may not even be aware that a child is adopted.

Each and every day there are children waking up alone knowing that they have to face another day without the support of a family. While the majority of adoptions are babies, there are older children that have been waiting for years. I know times are tough, but if you and your family are able and are interested in helping change the life of a child, please consider adopting or at least fostering a child.

There are many different ways to become an adoptive or foster parent. Some of the options in Wisconsin include a public adoption, relative adoption, stepparent adoption, private domestic adoption, and international adoption.

If you are considering adoption, please visit the official Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) website at <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/adoption> to learn more about the process and program more generally here in Wisconsin.

As always, feel free to contact my office with questions, comments, or concerns.

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