PROCLAMATION OF EQUAL PARENTS' WEEK

WHEREAS, the Children's Rights Council ("CRC") is a nation-wide, non-profit IRS 501(c)(3) children's rights organization which works to strengthen families through education and advocacy and to assure a child the frequent and continuing contact with two parents and extended family when families break up, or are never formed;

WHEREAS, in furtherance of these objectives, the CRC advocates parenting education before marriage, during marriage, and in the event of separation, works to demilitarize divorce between parents who are involved in marital disputes, substituting conciliation and mediation for the adversarial process, and providing for comprehensive child support;

WHEREAS, we recognize that "the best interests of children" cannot be met unless we maximize the ability of both parents to raise and nurture their children and afford children the maximum parenting effort and involvement each parent is willing and able to contribute in raising their children;

WHEREAS, we recognize that nothing can take the place of the love of a parent in children's lives, and it takes the equal presence of both parents in children's lives to meet their children's need for that love;

WHEREAS, we believe that "The Best Parent Is Both Parents;"

WHEREAS, we recognize that we as a society share the responsibility to keep families together by promoting a system that protects the right of children to be raised and nurtured by both parents and the right of families to exist and function as a family, as civil rights and human rights inalienable to all families;

WHEREAS, the Children's Rights Council has declared September 22, 2003 through September 28, 2003 as Equal Parents' Week, to raise public awareness of the urgent need of our children for the love and support from both parents, their extended families, and stepfamilies;

WHEREAS, _____ hereby issues a proclamation endorsing Equal Parents' Week, adopting it as a local event in _____, and promoting participation in this event throughout _____ for the public good.