  
**State of Iowa**  
**Executive Department**

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

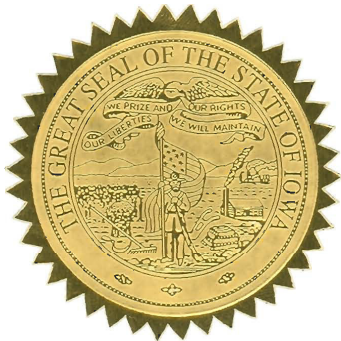
**PROCLAMATION**

- WHEREAS,** PARENTAL ALIENATION SYNDROME (PAS) IS A PSYCHOLOGICAL CONDITION MOST OFTEN OBSERVED IN CHILDREN AFFECTED BY HIGH CONFLICT DIVORCE AND/OR SEPARATION; AND
- WHEREAS,** PARENTAL ALIENATION INVOLVES THE SYSTEMATIC BRAINWASHING AND MANIPULATION OF CHILDREN WITH THE SOLE PURPOSE OF DESTROYING A LOVING AND WARM RELATIONSHIP THEY ONCE SHARED WITH A PARENT; AND
- WHEREAS,** THE MOST COMMON SYMPTOM OF CHILDREN AFFECTED BY PAS IS THEIR SEVERE OPPOSITION TO CONTACT WITH ONE PARENT AND/OR COVERT HATRED TOWARD SUCH PARENT WHEN THERE IS LITTLE AND OFTEN, NO LOGICAL REASON TO EXPLAIN THE CHILD'S BEHAVIOR; AND
- WHEREAS,** PARENTAL ALIENATION DEPRIVES CHILDREN OF THEIR RIGHT TO LOVE AND BE LOVED BY BOTH PARENTS; AND
- WHEREAS,** PARENTAL ALIENATION IS CONSIDERED A FORM OF CHILD ABUSE AS THE ALIENATING TACTICS USED ON THE CHILDREN ARE DISTURBING, CONFUSING AND OFTEN FRIGHTENING, AND ROB CHILDREN OF THEIR SENSE OF SECURITY AND SAFETY; AND
- WHEREAS,** PROFESSIONALS AGREE THAT THE PROBLEM OF PAS EXISTS AND IS DAMAGING TO CHILDREN AND CAN AFFECT THEM INTO ADULTHOOD WITH TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES; AND
- WHEREAS,** IN 1994, MORE THAN 2.4 MILLION NORTH AMERICANS WERE DIVORCED, INCLUDING THE PARENTS OF MORE THAN ONE MILLION CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN, WITH NEARLY AS MANY UNMARRIED COUPLES WITH CHILDREN SEPARATING; AND
- WHEREAS,** WITH AWARENESS COMES EDUCATION AND UNDERSTANDING, AND THE POWER TO STOP THE ABUSE OF INNOCENT CHILDREN CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE OF THE PEOPLE THEY LOVE:

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** THOMAS J. VILSACK, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF IOWA, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2007 AS

**PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS DAY**

IN IOWA,



**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,** I HAVE HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES MOINES THIS 15<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND SIX.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
THOMAS J. VILSACK  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHESTER J. CULVER  
SECRETARY OF STATE