Proclamation
By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDP) is a category of death in children between the ages of 1 and 18 that remains unexplained after a thorough investigation, including an autopsy; and

WHEREAS, each year there are approximately 400 cases of SUDP in the United States, including more than 200 younger children between the ages of one and four; and

WHEREAS, while less common than sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), which occurs before the first birthday, SUDP is an important health concern deserving of increased public awareness and research; and

WHEREAS, SUDP is the 5th leading category of death among children ages 1 to 4 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there currently is no way to predict or prevent SUDP as its cause is unknown; and

WHEREAS, it is hoped that future research will identify means by which SUDP can be prevented; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the dedicated efforts of organizations such as the SUDP Foundation, medical professionals, medical/legale death investigators and volunteers who are working to better understand the causes of SUDP, improve the health of infants and children and provide much-needed hope and support for those families grieving the heartbreaking sudden, unexplained death of a child; and

WHEREAS, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Awareness Month provides an opportunity to honor the memory of the young lives that ended too soon, show encouragement and support for the families and loved ones devastated by their loss and increase public awareness of SUDP and the ongoing search for answers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim March 2021, as

Sudden Unplanned Death in Childhood

in the state of Alabama.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 11th day of February 2021.

Kay Ivey
Governor