WHEREAS, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) is the sudden and unexpected death of a child over the age of 12 months which remains unexplained after a thorough case investigation is conducted, including performance of a complete autopsy, examination of the death scene, and review of the child's medical history; and

WHEREAS, each year, there are approximately 400 cases of SUDC in the United States between the ages of 1 and 19 - including more than 240 children under the age of 5 - who die without any clear cause or explanation; and

WHEREAS, while less common than Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), which occurs before the first birthday, SUDC is an important health concern deserving of increased public awareness and research; and

WHEREAS, SUDC is the 5th leading cause of death among toddlers, and at the present time, there is no way to prevent SUDC as its cause(s) is unknown. Future research may identify means by which SUDC can be prevented; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the dedicated efforts of organizations such as the SUDC, medical professionals, and volunteers that are working to better understand the causes of sudden unexplained death, 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 forever devastated by their loss and increase public awareness of SUDC.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize March as

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN
CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

On this 1st day of March 2022;

Mike DeWine
Governor

Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor