



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the sudden loss of human life is tragic and shocking, and the unexpected death of a child is especially painful and all the more distressing when the cause is unknown, indeterminate, and the reasons are unclear; and

Whereas, New Yorkers support initiatives that raise awareness of such difficult subjects as Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) – a category of death among children between the ages of 1 and 18 years, the cause of which is unknown and remains unexplained even after thorough investigation, including examination of the death scene, review of the clinical history, and an autopsy; and

Whereas, each year, there are approximately 400 cases of SUDC in the United States, with the majority including more than 200 very young children between the ages of one to four years who die without any clear cause or medical reason; and

Whereas, this ranks SUDC as the fifth leading category of death among one to four year-old children, and its prevention remains a medical challenge as there currently are no methods to predict or prevent SUDC; and

Whereas, families who have experienced the sudden death of a child can benefit from informational and supportive resources that provide tools for coping with the trauma of such a devastating event; the SUDC Foundation, medical professionals, and medicolegal death investigators are working to better understand the causes of SUDC, improve the health of infants and children, and provide support for those families grieving the heartbreak of the sudden, unexplained death of a child; and

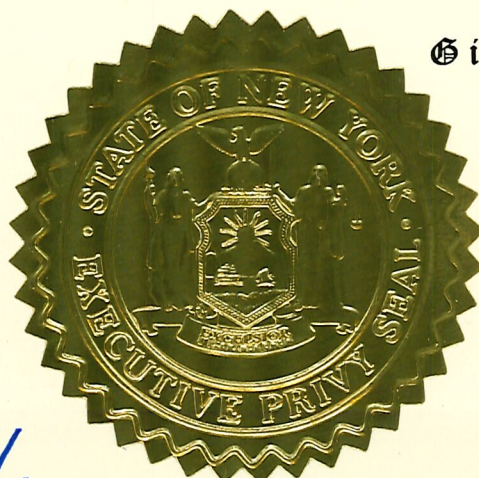
Whereas, New York State places a priority on ensuring excellent neonatal and pediatric healthcare in our state, and recognizes the importance of increasing public awareness and continuing research that will help unlock the mysteries of SUDC and ultimately lead to its prevention; and

Whereas, during Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Awareness Month, New Yorkers join to honor the memory of precious young lives that ended too soon and show our encouragement and support for families devastated by their loss;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim March 2022 as

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this first day
of March in the year two thousand twenty-two.

Kathy Hochul
Governor

[Signature]
Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh