

Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

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

Whereas, each year there are approximately 400 cases of SUDC in the United States - including more than 200 younger children between the ages of 1 and 4 years- 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, it is hoped that future research will identify means by which SUDC can be prevented; and,

Whereas, we recognize the dedicated efforts of organizations such as the SUDC Foundation, medical professionals, medicolegal death investigators and volunteers who are working to better understand the causes of SUDC, 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:


Now, Therefore, I, Kristi Noem, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 2022, as

**SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN
CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH**


in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this twenty-fourth day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.


Kristi Noem, Governor

Attest:


Steven J. Barnett, Secretary of State