

# STATE OF DELAWARE



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### **PROCLAMATION IN OBSERVANCE OF SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH**

*Whereas*, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) 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 SUDC in the United States – including more than 200 younger children between the ages of 1 and 4 – who die without any clear cause or explanation; and

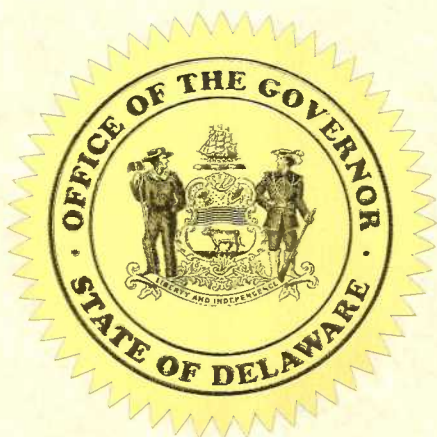
*Whereas*, while less common sudden unexplained infant death (SUID), which occurs before the first birthday as result of infant unsafe sleeping, SUDC is an important health concern deserving of increased public awareness and research; and

*Whereas*, we recognize the dedicated efforts of medical professionals, medicolegal death investigators, staff, and volunteers of the Delaware Sudden Death in the Young Panel 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, We, John Carney, Governor,  
and Bethany Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor,  
do hereby declare March 2023, as*

### **SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH**

in the State of Delaware and encourage all Delawareans 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 SUDC.



*John C. Carney*  
John C. Carney  
Governor

*Bethany A. Hall-Long*  
Bethany A. Hall-Long  
Lieutenant Governor

17-7763  
Number