



## STATE *of* MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- 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 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 fifth 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 SUDC, as its cause is unknown; 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, 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 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 SUDC and the ongoing search for answers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim March 2023 as:

## SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February.

Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of Steve Pimmon in black ink.

SECRETARY OF STATE